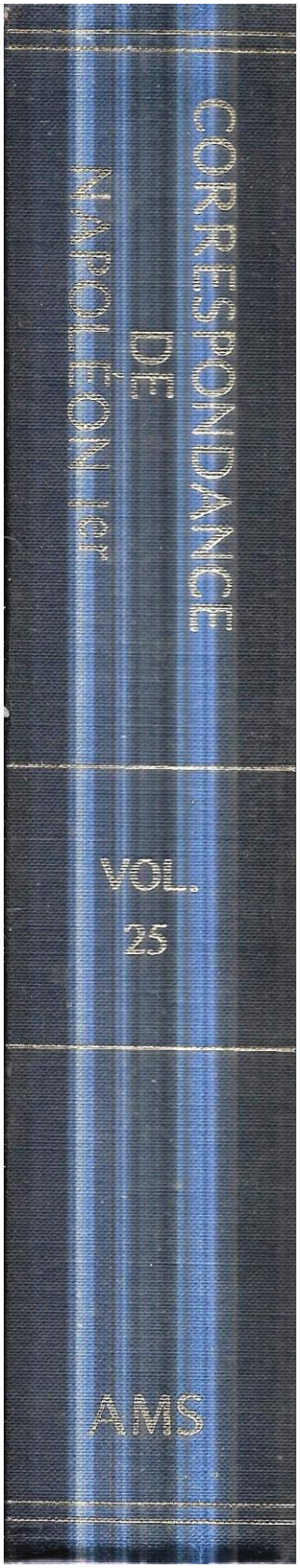
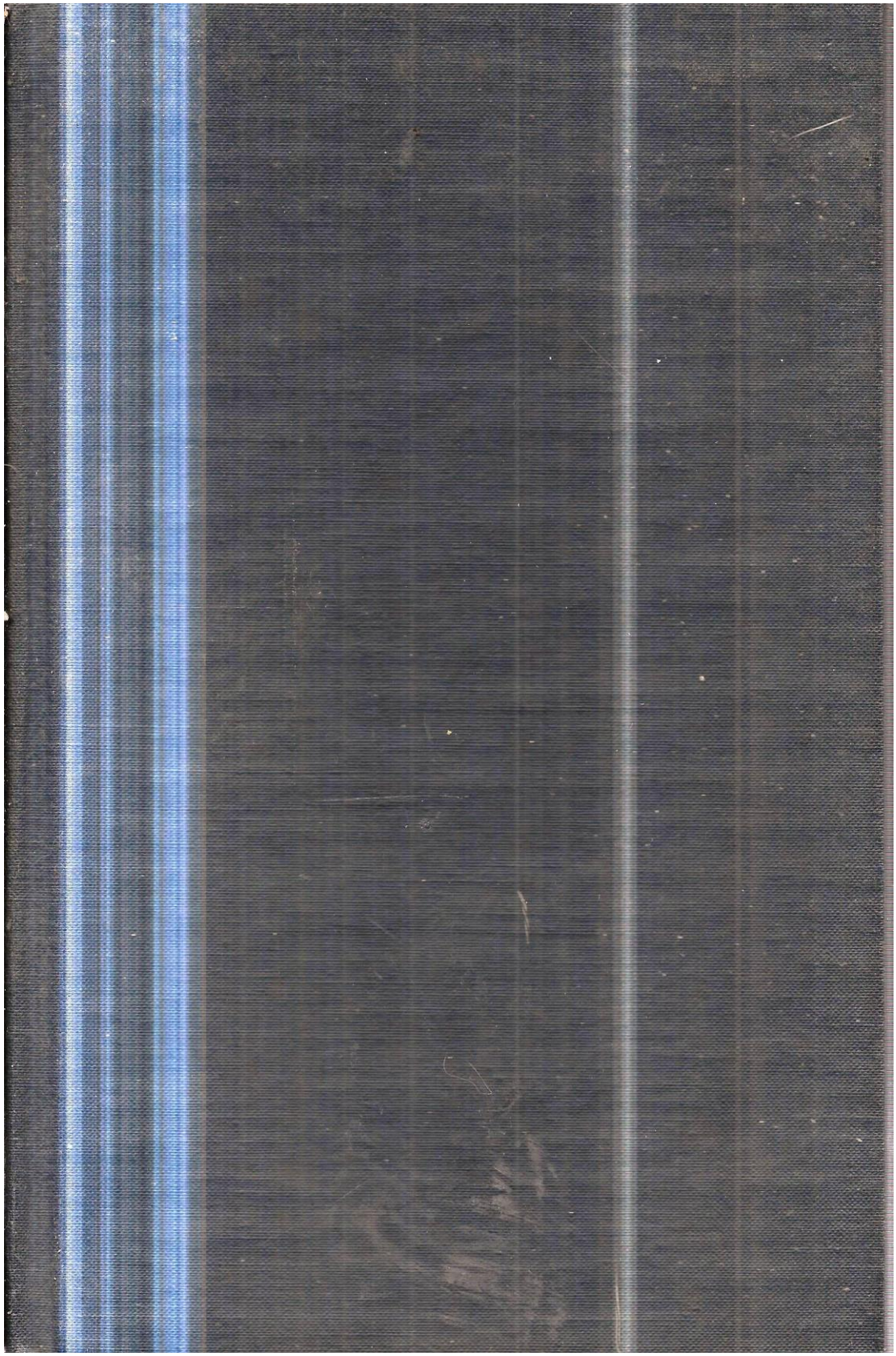
CORRESPONDENCE OF NAPOLEON 1st .YEAR 1813.



CORRESPONDENCE OF NAPOLEON 1st .YEAR 1813.



CORRESPONDENCE

OF

NAPOLEON FIRST.

YEAR 1813.

19627. - To M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris, March 1st, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I wish you to write to Hesse-Darmstadt for the Hessian cavalry regiment, and to Baden, for the Baden regiment, to proceed without delay to Aschaffenburg, where he will be under the command of General Souham.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19628 - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, .A PARIS.

Paris, 1st March, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Feltre, by my letter of February 26th, I made known to you the general dispositions to be made for the formation of the cavalry of the Grand Army; but the season advances, and it is indispensable to bear on our frontiers the greatest number of cavalry possible.

I desire, therefore, that the eight light cavalry regiments which form the 1st Division of the 1st Cavalry Corps (Bruyere Division) should send as soon as possible from their depots a complete squadron to 250 well-equipped men, well equipped and well dressed; which will bring this division to 2,000 men; and, as it is possible that the depots may not at first send out a squadron, you will order that they at least depart from company, well supplemented by officers and non-commissioned officers and the strength of 125 men. We will train[1]

1

of these eight companies a provisional regiment, which will meet at Wesel.

You will order the same thing for the 3rd Light Cavalry Division; which will bring together eight squadrons or 2,000 men, and provisionally eight companies or 1,000 men, which will be formed likewise at Wesel.

The 1st Division of Cuirassiers, which is composed of six regiments, will receive from each depot a squadron of 200 men, well assembled, well dressed and well equipped; the depots will first send away a company of 100 men; which will make 600 horses of heavy cavalry.

Finally, the three cuirassier regiments and the four dragoons forming the Doumerc division will also send out a squadron, and meanwhile a company; which will make 700 men first.

These four regiments of march will make 3,300 men and will be reunited at Wesel. You will appoint a general of division or a brigadier general to command them, and you will appoint four colonels or majors for the command of each regiment.

The regiments which will only send one company will announce when the second can leave to carry the 1st corps of cavalry to 6,600 men.

You will give the same order for the 2nd Light Cavalry Division of the 2nd Cavalry Corps. This 2nd division is strong of six regiments; which will make six squadrons, and meanwhile six companies or 750 men. You will give the same order for the 4th Light Cavalry Division, composed of seven regiments; which will provisionally 875 men. Finally, you will give the same order to the regiments of the cuirassier division, which is under the orders of General Wattier; his six regiments will first provide six companies of 100 men. This will make for the 2nd Cavalry Corps a total of 2,223 horses.

The depots will also announce when the second companies will be able to join and carry the 2nd Cavalry Corps to 4,450 men.

These marching regiments will be under the orders of a division general or a brigadier general, and will be commanded by three majors or colonels. We will meet them in Mainz. Each of these regiments of march will take the name of regiment of march of its division, and will have, independently of this, a number of order, to avoid any misunderstanding.

You will order that the 3rd Cavalry Corps be formed at Metz.[2]

2

The eight regiments composing the 1st Light Cavalry Division will each send a squadron there, except for the 13th Chasseurs who will send two; and, meanwhile, they will each send a company, except the 13th, which will send two companies; which will make 1,125 men.

The 2nd Light Cavalry Division of the same corps is composed of nine regiments. Each of these regiments will also send a company, until it can send a squadron; which will make 1,125 men equally.

So on for the other divisions.

Appoint a divisional general and two brigadier generals to command the regiments of this 3rd Corps.

Let me know when these bodies are gathered at Wesel, Mainz, and Metz, and when the second companies leave to form the squadron; finally when we can send another squadron.

The 3rd corps, composed of Spanish squadrons, must be final.

The other squadrons, on the contrary, will have to be incorporated in their respective regiments which are at the Grande Armée.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Order the Duke of Piacenza to provisionally take command of the whole cavalry division composed of the detachments of the four divisions of Spain; he will follow all the details of their formation, and when necessary he will carry his headquarters to Metz.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19629. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE DE FRIULL,
GRAND MARECHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 1st, 1813.

I see from your work on the Guards infantry that the suit is 36,000 men; that the current strength is 18,600; that the missing is 17,400, and that the resources, including both. conscriptions and what must happen from Spain, are 21,000 men. There will therefore be 6,000 more men than it will take; which will put all the cadet well in full.

I also see in this work that there are a large number of supernumerary officers, both in the grenadiers and in the chasseurs, namely: nine battalion commanders, twenty captains, twenty lieutenants and[3]

3

forty second lieutenants. My intention is to employ all these officers in the line; make me a draft decree which gives them the rank for which they are clean. They will leave at once for Magdeburg, where General Lauriston will place them in the cohorts who need them; this is of great importance.

I do not subscribe to General Curial's desire to keep the extra officers. I only want to have the number of officers strictly necessary for executives; if necessary later, or I will make progress, or I will bring officers from Spain; but it is now a precious resource to be able to dispose of these supernumerary officers, who are most capable of being rails battalion chiefs, whose cohorts are entirely wanting.

Introduce me this work as soon as possible.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19630. - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTIY OF THE PUBLIC TREASURE, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 1st, 1813.

Count Mollien, I have approved the account which you have concluded with the master of petitions La Bouillerie, whence it follows that the Sieur la Bouillerie gives you: 1st 8,200,000 francs which are due to the civil list; 2nd 10 millions which are due on the civil list for the rest of the year; 3rd 6 million for different interest accounts; 4th, and finally, 10 millions, silver; which amounts to a sum of 34,200,000 francs which would have come out of the treasury; which, together with the 10 millions more you demanded yesterday, will bring the total to 44,200,000 francs.

Napoleon.

According to the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19631. - To M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I wish you to write to my charge d'affaires near the different princes of the Confederation, so that there is no question of any French troops in their newspapers. The Frankfurt Gazette, among others, reports on all passages; this has the greatest disadvantage.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,[4]

4

19632. - TO THE COUNT DE MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

As soon as I go to Bremen, Münster, Osnabrück and Hamburg, write in these cities to prepare my accommodation and a guard of honor. However, my housing must not cost anything to the country.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19633. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE DE ROVIGO,
MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Have the small newspapers state that the Emperor is going to Antwerp, where he will visit his squadron; that he will then go to Amsterdam, that he will visit the Helder and the Texel squadron; that he will go to Grouingen, Münster, Osnabrück, Bremen, and Hamburg, and that from that last city he will carry his headquarters to Magdeburg.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19634. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, order General Lapoype to go to Spandau to take command of the place. Let him know that I count on him for this important place; let him put it in order, supply it, and listen to nothing; let him take care to bring a number with the viceroy.

Present me letters which name the Magdeburg Venerator Major General Haxo. He will be responsible for the defense of the place and all that is related to command and supply. If this place were to be surrounded, it would have, independently of the officers of the engineers and artillery, four or five companies of artillery, one of sappers and two divisions of infantry composed of the battalions of Erfurt. The two generals of division and the four generals of brigade would form the garrison of the place; we would put in it the number of horses he would judge useful.

Make these arrangements known to the Viceroy.

General Michaud will remain in Magdeburg until further notice, in order to bring General Haxo to good terms; there will be the command[5]

5

second, General Haxo having the letters of governor. However, if the place were invested, General Michaud would not remain there.

You will let General Haxo know that, as the case arrives, he will have the greatest latitude. I think it is proper for this general to be returned to Magdeburg on the 10th. You will, moreover, make it known to him that he will be in a position to follow the army, where I would use it properly for the confidence I have. in him, as soon as we passed the Oder and Magdeburg was no longer threatened.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19635. - GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE DE FELTHE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Our deposits are cluttered with men out of service. It would be advisable to send six inspectors to tour, both to reform the men out of service and to grant the retreat to those who are to receive it, and to de-clutter the depots, as to ensure the training, in accordance with my orders, of 4th battalions of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army; they will activate this formation and will announce when the battalions will be able to leave.

Four cavalry inspectors must be sent out to oversee the reorganization of the squadrons to leave for the Grand Army.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19636. - TO COLONEL BEHNAHD, AIDE DE CAMP OF THE EMPEROR, PARIS.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Go to the Prince of Neuchâtel to inquire about the figures that existed at the last campaign, and to know if the Viceroy has one. As I fear that the enemy will have these numbers, I want to change them. You'll report me on it. I would like to have two kinds of numbers, a number of the army staff with the various corps commanders, a figure of me with the army commanders during the time I am absent.

You will bring me the number the viceroy will have, since one will have to put a lot of figures on account of the Cossack parties.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[6]

6

19637. - INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAPTAIN LAPLACE, OFFICER OF ORDINANCE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

You will go diligently and travel day and night to Karlsruhe. You will find the Grand Duke where he will be, and you will deliver him the attached letter. You will stay there twelve hours, and twenty-four if necessary, to send me the state of the troops he will send to Wurzburg, infantry, cavalry and artillery. You will engage him to leave good troops and especially of the cavalry. You will write me from Karlsruhe.

From there you will go to Stuttgart, where you will deliver the attached letter to the king, and from there you will pass the same information,

You will then go to Munich, where you will bring to the King the attached letter.

From there you will go to Kronach, to assure yourself of the situation of this place, and, by an extraordinary dispatch, you will inform me of the state of affairs.

From there you will go to Würzburg: you will see the citadel and you will also inform me of its situation.

From there you will go and come to Bamberg, Baireuth and Kronach, to see the progress made by the meeting of the Bavarian troops to be formed on these three points.

The Wurtembergers, the Hessians and the Badois must meet in Würzburg. It is urgent that Kronach Square and the Citadel of Würzburg be supplied, armed and protected from a hand.

You will write to me every day and you will wait for my orders in this situation.

When the Bavarians and the Wurtembergers are nearly united, you will inform the Viceroy, who is at Berlin, and General Lauriston, who is at Magdeburg, by extraordinary couriers.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. In the letters you write to me every day, you will be careful to insert anything that may interest me. Be away tomorrow, March 3, before daylight.

From the original comm. by General Marquis Laplace.[7]

7

19638. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Cousin, I have ordered the vice-king to bring together the sixteen battalions of your army corps which are formed at Erfurt, in Wittenberg, where I wish you to proceed. Organize as soon as possible for this body two artillery batteries,

I order that the division of the 2nd corps, with twelve battalions, which is formed at Erfurt, meet at Dessau. If the Duke de Bellune were employed elsewhere, you would also take command of this division. It is necessary that she also have two artillery batteries. By this means, the Dessau and Wittenberg bridges would be kept, as well as all the space between Magdeburg and Torgau. The King of Saxony has provided for the defense of this last place, on which, however, you will exercise your supervision.

Your division must have a good general of division and three good brigade generals. Do everything possible to organize it well. Have the troops exercise.

A second division of sixteen battalions, composed of the 4th battalions of the same army corps, leaves in the course of March; which completes the 1st corps with two divisions. This division will also have two batteries.

He also leaves twelve 4th battalions for the 2nd corps. Wittenberg has doors; so he is safe from a helping hand, at least against the Cossacks and an avant-garde. I suppose nothing has been disturbed since the Prussian campaign.

If it happened that the enemies forced the viceroy to return to the Elbe and advance to Germany, my intention is that the division of the 1st corps and that of the 2nd and all that is organized form the garrison of Magdeburg, of which I appointed Governor General Haxo. In this case, you would follow the corps of the Elbe and the army of the viceroy, my intention being that this army goes on Cassel to defend the Weser, taking its liana of operation on Wesel. I want you to write to me directly and every day from Wittenberg.

The citadel of Würzburg and that of Kronach put themselves in a state of defense. 15,000 Bavarians go to Bamberg, Baireuth and Krouach; the Wurtembergers, the Hessians and the Badois go to Wurzburg.

The Prince of the Moskva will be the 10th in Frankfurt, with the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, with sixty battalions.[8]

8

I do not need to tell you that great care must be taken in disciplining the troops, in firing the exercise, shooting at the target, and forming columns of attack and squadrons against the cavalry.

The observation corps of Italy, 60,000 strong and commanded by General Bertrand, set out on the 10th of March for Regensburg.

The Duke of Treviso will be on the 12th at Gotha, with sixty pieces of artillery from my Guard in double supply, 2,000 horses from my Guard, and a division of 10,000 infantry also from my Guard.

The citadel of Erfurt was placed in a state of defense; she is safe from a helping hand. The Duke of Padua is there, and there are still several battalions.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

19639. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Count Lauriston, the bridgehead of Magdeburg seems to me a little advanced. It would be convenient to build one or two field redoubts between the bridgehead and the citadel, so as to flank it well, and nothing can be introduced in this interval.

At the end of walls, two other divisions will strengthen the 1st and 2nd corps. You understand well that it is necessary that the division of the 1st corps which assembles at Wittenberg, and that of the 2nd corps which assembles at Dessau, each have two batteries on foot or sixteen pieces of cannon.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19640. TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDAT THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, A MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Count Lauriston, you will find attached a letter for Prince Eckmühl; put it to him. I appointed General Haxo Governor of Magdeburg; it will be there towards the 10th. In case the enemy pushed his point on Dresden, I made known to you the dispositions made relative to the mountains of Thuringia, for[9]

9

Baireuth, Kronach and Würzburg. I have informed you that the Duke of Treviso will be on the 12th at Gotha, with sixty pieces of cannon of my Guard and ten to twelve thousand men, of whom two thousand are cavalry. My intention, I can only repeat, is that the four divisions of the observation corps of the Elbe remain united at the Magdeburg line. On your right you will have the division of the 2nd corps at Dessau, the prince of Eckmühl at Wittenberg, and the Saxons at Torgau; on your left, the Westphalians in Havelberg. The latter, if they fear something, instead of putting themselves on the right bank of the river, will place themselves on the left, taking care to remove all the boats.

If ever the enemy pushed their point on Dresden, or the viceroy thought it necessary to abandon Magdeburg to his own strength, my intention is that you should leave there four artillery companies, one of sappers, and the two whole divisions 1st and 2nd corps, which meet at Dessau and Wittenberg; which would make a force of more than 16,000 men. You would leave there 2 or 300 horses, as General Haxo would deem fit; you would also leave the value of a westphahen regiment. The rest, and all your body with that of the Viceroy, and under the orders of the Viceroy, would maneuver to defend the Weser and Cassel. It is therefore necessary that you take your line of operation on Wesel. For this purpose, you can take your step line on Cassel, and Kassel on Wesel. The Duke of Padua remains at Erfurt, where a body of troops is assembled. You thus know all my dispositions.

Having no number at this moment, I dare not write these provisions to the viceroy, since the Cossacks could intercept my letter. But if it happens that the enemy goes to Dresden and pushes a point on Thuringia, you must let him know that he ought not to be surprised at it; that he must hold a long time at Torgau and at Magdeburg, since his line of operation can not be compromised, being on Cassel and Wesel.

Also write to the King of Westphalia, so that he may know the instructions I have given, and that there are in Kassel furnaces and a reserve in case of an event. If you have a number with the viceroy, let him know the general direction of operations. Of course he must keep Berlin and the Elbe as long as possible.

I appointed General Lapoype to command at Spandau.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.[10]

10

19641. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I receive your letter of ..... February.

The Prince of Eckmühl is to go to Wittenberg with the twenty-eight battalions who are to meet at Erfurt. It is probable that, if the enemy advances, General Reynier will place himself with the whole contingent of the Saxon at Torgau. Prince Eckmühl must guard not only the Wittenberg Bridge, but also the Dessau Bridge, if it has been restored. Several battalions must have already arrived at Wittenberg; remember your 134th regiment and concentrate on Magdeburg. I think that in the present circumstances it is useless for you to send a division to Brandenburg. The main thing is that your troops do not make retrograde movements and are quiet for some time to get organized. You can place your whole corps within a day or two of Magdeburg, in order to have my hand, and to be able to wait for your artillery and a little cavalry, for without artillery and without cavalry you would be very weak.

I have ordered that the whole corps of Westphalia come to meet at Havelberg; it may, if you think fit, remain largely behind Elbe, and thus keep all the lower part of the river.

The Duke of Treviso will be returned on the 12th to Mayence, and on the 14th to Gotha, where all the Imperial Guard will be assembled, that is to say forty-four pieces of artillery, with a double supply, a division of 8,000 men. infantry and 1,500 horses. Get in touch with this marshal.

The Prince of Moskva will be returned to Frankfurt on March 10 with the 1st Rhine Observation Corps, with sixty battalions.

The Bavarians meet in Bamberg, Baireuth and Kronach.

The Wurtembergers, the Hessians and the Badois meet in Würzburg.

Keep your troops together and expose them to no retrograde movement. Go yourself for a review of the regiments that make up General Sebastiani's cavalry corps, which are under your orders. Let me know the dead or out-of-service colonels, suggest me some replacements and take all the steps to get the men back up.

The Duke of Ragusa will be the 15th at Mayence with the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, strong, like the 1st, of sixty battalions.[11]

11

General Bertrand begins March 10 his movement to be on Regensburg.

I can only repeat to you that my intention is that none of the Roseate divisions pass the Elbe, if he has her sixteen pieces of well-equipped cannon, his ambulance caissons, if the officers missing in the corps have been replaced, if the brigade generals, the staff officers, the artillery and the engineers are there, and if you have a strong cavalry corps of at least 2,000 horses. Until you have obtained these results, your divisions must remain one or two days away from Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original Comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19642. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Count Lauriston, get my headquarters ready in Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm. by M. Marquis de Lauriston.

1964 3. - IN GENERAL COUNT BERTHAND,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF ITALY, IN TRIESTE.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

Count Bertrand, recommend to the generals who command your divisions, that the troops be given the exercise on fire twice a week; that, twice a week, they fire at the target, and finally that they do maneuvers three times. They will be made the columns of attack by battalion; they will be loaded into the attacking column and deployed under the fire of the first division, and fired upon arriving on the line of battle. The column of attack will be formed, while the division of the center begins the fire of cop and unfolds under the fire. After that, we'll do a hundred-paces charge, beating the charge simply and without blur or variations, and we'll make all the platoons fire, as they come on the line of battle. You will also order that the maneuver be made often to start squarely in a square battalion, bending behind the last divisions of the battalion, at a distance of platoon and by fire.[12]

12

This is the maneuver it is most necessary that the colonels know well, because the slightest hesitation can compromise the troop.

Finally, order that each company of voltigeurs be instructed to form the square promptly and to make at once fire-fire, so that being skirmishers they can quickly meet and resist the cavalry. Have the necessary powder given for these exercises, and announce that it is these particular maneuvers that I will have done in front of me.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. General Count Henry Bertrand.

Same letter to General Lanriston and Marshal Duke of Valmy.

19644. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SCHONEBERG.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

My Son, in the present situation of things, it would be improper to advance the twenty-eight battalions of Erfurt before your corps. these battalions need to be formed. It will be more convenient to reunite the twelve battalions of the 2nd corps in a division at Dessau, where they will keep the bridge. Send a general of division and two brigadier generals. You must have kept it for this purpose, and those who have been to Erfurt can serve.

The sixteen battalions of the 1st corps will form another division at Wittenberg, where they will guard the bridge and the city. You will also send them a general of division and three brigade generals. Each of these divisions will be organized with a battery of cannon.

Or the prince of Eckmühl will command the two divisions and will carry his headquarters to Wittenberg, or the Duke de Bellune will take the command of the 2nd corps at Dessau, and in that case the Prince of Eckmuhl will command at Wittenberg only the division of the first corps.

You will recommend them to exercise the battalions; the brigade generals must have them fire and fire at the target. These two divisions will thus be intermediate between Torgau and Magdeburg. When they have their cannon batteries and they are a little formed, we will see to send them on Stettin; but, as they are today, it would be imprudent to expose them en route and send them forward.

I ordered that the twenty-eight 4th battalions of the same regiments[13]

13

leave France in the course of March. This will provide two other divisions that can also meet on the Elbe.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuehtenberg,

19645. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SCHONEBERG.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

My Son, I have made General Lauriston aware of my intention as to the movements to be made in case the enemy is in force on Dresden, and on the line of operation to be taken. I will write it to you tomorrow in detail, because I am waiting for a figure for that.

I see that General Guilleminot has left you: it deserved at least to tell me the reason, and what this general does.

I have ordered, as I have already told you, that the Prince of Eckmuhl should go to Wittenberg. Put under his orders the Polish regiments, cavalry and infantry, which General Reynier has brought; this will increase his division. Give orders for his artillery to be organized promptly. It requires two foot-halls for its division and two batteries for the one that meets at Dessau.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19646. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SCHONEBERG.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

My son, I can hardly see that you have dismissed duke Castiglione. His presence in Berlin could be useful; he was accustomed to the police of this town and was known to the populace. I also see with difficulty the event happened at the 4th of Italian chasseurs. Had there been a good general of cavalry, it would not have happened; but you send everyone away and do not keep anyone. It would have been necessary to reunite this regiment with the Guard and to form a corps of cavalry which, wherever it would have appeared, would have all tumbled. All this is not good. Make harsh examples and maintain tranquility.

The 300,000 men who make up the four observation corps are moving, and the scene will change soon.[14]

14

I order General Lauriston to concentrate at Magdeburg, a corps of Westphalia, to assemble on the side of Havelberg, and to Prince Eckmühl to carry with the twenty-eight battalions on Willenberg and Dessau.

The hundred pieces of cannon of the observation corps of the Elbe have left. Complete your artillery.

Send me every five days the situation of your corps and the places where it is; finally send me a report of all the events that have happened since you ordered. Your correspondence does not say anything. Regardless of the letters you write to me, the staff must write every day and in detail. So, what is the event or Prince Giedroye was caught? I do not know; I do not know our losses; I do not know more about the 4th fighter event. This way of teaching me is inadequate and false. I especially need to know the truth; that's what you do not tell me enough.

Call a good cavalry division general to command your cavalry; keep it together and put a good body of voltigeurs and a good battery of horse artillery with it.

Do not advance the body of General Lauriston on you, let him have all his artillery and a little cavalry.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19647. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

My Brother, in the first fifteen days of March, the entire Elbe Observation Corps is to be assembled at Magdeburg and a day in the neighborhood. I give the order that the Prince of Eckmühl, with a division of sixteen battalions, proceed to Wittenberg, and another division to Dessau. Measures have long been taken by the Saxons to occupy Torgau.

I told you I wanted you to miss your body on the left of General Lauriston, half-way to Magdeburg and Hamburg. The troops may even be placed on the right bank of the river, while there is no danger, in order to disturb the enemy. We will ensure all boats to prevent the passage of the Elbe.

All forces of the enemy, according to the latest information,[15]

15

appear to be on Kalisz's side. If he marched on Dresden to turn the Oder and the Elbe, I ordered the Viceroy to carry his line of operation through Magdeburg, Cassel, and Wesel. If the Viceroy was obliged to abandon the Elbe, he would defend the Weser and Cassel. So I think it is fitting that, without pretending anything, you have at Kassel a resource of 4 to 500,000 biscuit rations and a twenty-four kiln handling, which you can have built by announcing the arrival of an army; which will always be a good effect.

Send me here, near the grand marshal of the palace, an officer of the bridges and roads or an individual of this country who knows well the ways of Cassel in Cologne, of Kassel with Frankfurt and Cassel with Wesel, and which can give good information on roads and localities,

The viceroy sent me word of the 24th that he remained in Berlin.

General Reynier is between Glogau and Dresden with the Saxons and the division Durulle. Bavaria organized 15,000 men, 2,000 of them cavalry and thirty pieces of cannon; this corps meets at Buireuth, Kronach and Bamberg. The Wurternbergeois meet in Würzburg, as well as the Hessians and Badois.

The 1st corps of observation of the Rhine is entirely united at Frankfurt; the prince of Moskova, who commands it, will be returned from his person on the 10th. The duke of Ragusa, who commands the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, will be returned on the 15th to Frankfurt. The Duke of Treviso will be returned to Gotha on the 12th; he will have sixty pieces of my Guard with double supply, 3000 men of cavalry of my Guard, and 10,000 men of infantry also of my Guard. General Bertrand, with 60,000 men of the observation corps of Italy, will begin on the 10th to debouch by the Tyrol to come to Regensburg.

I think it would be convenient for you to have one of your aides-de-camp near the viceroy, knowing the localities, to help him, and to assure you of what is going on. It would be necessary for this aide-de-camp to have a number. with you, and that he used it constantly while writing to you, for it must be expected that the Cossacks will intercept letters. Also have a number with General Lauriston.

I am sending Governor General of Haxo as governor of Magdeburg.

If the Viceroy was obliged to abandon the Elbe (which he will do well, especially in view of the line of operation which I commanded him on Cassel and Wesel), the garrison of Magdeburg would be composed of[16]

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1,500 or 2,000 men of Westphalian troops and two complete divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps, which meet at Dessau and Willenberg.

As soon as Emperor Alexander or General Kutuzof entered either Berlin or Dresden, you would send Wesel from Heine and send him to Paris, but not before.

Let me know the nature of the roads of the Weser in Cologne.

Can artillery pieces pass through?

You see that, by these dispositions, the army of the Russians at Dresden would not disturb or compromise anything, since the division which is in the citadel at Erfurt is supplied and protected from a coup de main. Things thus arranged, when I believe the moment has arrived, I will go to Mayence, and if the Busses come forward, I will make suitable arrangements; but we need to win until May.

I suppose I have in my cabinet all the maps of your country; if you had maps that I did not have, send them to me by the officer you will send me.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome,

19648. - A. JÉHOME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

My brother, I have made known to you my intentions in my letter of today. You will have seen that it is my intention that you gather your troops on the left of General Lauriston, halfway between Hamburg and Magdeburg, at the bend of the river, and that your troops are exercising all along the Elbe, in order to withdraw all the boats on this side. I think that as soon as you have 6,000 men and sixteen pieces of cannon, you can have a redoubt set up on the right bank, to protect the passage of the river either on a bridge that you establish, or at least by means of a back and forth that will carry 500 men and 50 horses at a time. This position of your troops is very necessary, and the establishment of a bridge or of a comings and goings, as well as that of a strong redoubt making a bridgehead on the right bank, seems to me very suitable. Take care of this without delay.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. pm S. A, I. Prince Jerome,[17]

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19649.-TO FRÉDÉRIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, AT PLAUEN.

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Sir, I have received Your Majesty's letters of the 5th, of the 12th and of the 18th of February.

The viceroy is in Berlin. General Lauriston, with the observation corps of the Elbe, will be, in these two weeks, all together at Magdeburg. I ordered that the Prince of Eckmühl should carry himself with two divisions to Wittenberg; he will put one in Dessau. I suppose that Your Majesty did supply Torgau well. If it happened that the strength of the Russian army should be directed towards Dresden, General Reynier should go to Torgau, unless he had received any other orders from the Viceroy.

The King of Bavaria will assemble 15,000 men at Baireuth, Bamberg and Kronach. I ordered that the last place be put in state. The Wurtembergers, the Badois and the Hessians meet in Würzburg. The Prince of Moskva will be returned to Frankfurt on the 10th, where the four divisions of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps have already been assembled. General Bertrand, with four divisions, making nearly 60,000 men, begins on the 10th of March to debouch from Verona to arrive at Regensburg. The Duke of Ragusa, who commands the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, will have his headquarters in Mainz on March 15th. The Duke of Treviso, with sixty pieces of cannon of my Guard, 10,000 infantry and 3,000 cavalry, will be at Gotha from the 12th to the 14th of March. If it happened that the Russians came in force to Dresden, and that the viceroy judged it advisable to abandon Berlin and to go to Magdeburg, his line of operation would be on Cassel and Wesel.

My Minister informed me that your Majesty wished to return to Baireuth. I do not need to tell him that everything in France is at his disposal. I have a house in Mainz; I also have a house in Strasbourg, where your Majesty's family would be perfectly fine.

I have commissioned Prince Eckmühl to take a look at Torgau, and to take command of this part of the course of the river.

I desire that your Majesty keep for herself only what concerns the line of operation which one should take if one were obliged to leave the Elbe. In the present situation of things, the more the Russians advance, leaving so many places behind them, the better it will be.

I suppose that your Majesty has taken all the measures to ensure that there will be five or six months' food in Torgau.[18]

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I would like to have with me a Saxon officer who knew perfectly all the roads and resources of the localities. Your Majesty may send him to Paris with the Duke of Frioul. It would be good if he carried maps and information about the countries of Saxony, which I do not have.

I have received so far good news from Danzig. General Rapp, in a sortie, took six pieces of cannon, made 1,100 prisoners, and chased the enemy seven leagues from the place.

I authorized Baron Serra to dispose of several sums of money to equip and assemble the Polish regiments which General Reynier brought with him.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19650. - A FRÉDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT STUTTGART

Paris. March 2, 1813.

Brother, my minister will have made known to your Majesty my wish that his army should be assembled at Wurzburg, infantry, cavalry, and artillery.

I make the same request to Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt.

The King of Bavaria also unites his corps in Baireuth, Kronach and Bamberg.

I beg your Majesty to inform me directly of the number of infantry, cavalry, and artillery troops to be assembled at Wurzburg, and what day.

I gave orders to let the Russians go, and all my measures are taken to enter the field soon. But it is necessary to keep the mountains of Thuringia, so that the heart of the Confederation of the Rhine can not be insulted by patrols of Cossacks.

It would be very important for your Majesty to gather a few thousand horses at Wurzburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19651. - A MAXIMILIEN-JOSEPH, KING OF BAVARIA, At MUNICH.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

My brother, my minister must have let you know that my desire was for your thirteen battalions to meet without delay[19]

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at Bamberg, Haireuth, and Kronach, with as much cavalry and artillery as you can. I write this letter myself to let you know the importance of this measure.

If General de Wrede is in Munich, he can take command of these troops himself. It would be interesting if you could add about 2,000 horses.

Please order that Kronach Fort be put in a state of defense, armed and supplied and protected from a coup de main. I am not sure that the citadel that existed on Hof's side was not dismantled; if it exists, please put it in a state of defense.

A corps of 60,000 men, commanded by General Bertrand, will move from Italy to Augsburg.

I can only recommend to your Majesty to make every effort to complete his contingent, and especially his cavalry and artillery.

All the measures I have taken are such that I have already ordered that the Russians be allowed to advance: the further they advance, the more certain is their loss.

I beg your Majesty to inform me of the day when his troops will be assembled at Bamberg, Baireuth, and Kronach, the position of his corps in infantry, cavalry, and artillery, the names of the different generals of division and brigade who command them, and finally everything your Majesty can do.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire,

19652. - TO FERDINAND-JOSEPH, GRAND DUKE OF WURZBURG, A WURZBURG.

Paris, March 2, 1813.

My brother, the army of Wurtemberg, Hesse-Darmstadt, and Baden will meet at Wurzburg; that of Bavaria meets at Bamberg, Baireuth and Kronach. I beg your Imperial Highness to order without delay the arming of the citadel of Würzburg, to put in condition its artillery and to make it provision for two months, so that at any event that place is safe from any surprise.

All my measures are taken to go into campaign in a short time; but, patrols of Cossacks being able to be carried in all directions, I think it necessary to keep the mountains of Thuringia, in order to guarantee the states of your Highness.

I ask Your Highness to let me know the situation of the citadel[20]

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of Würzburg, the state of his armament and his supply, and all that Your Highness may do in that circumstance.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19653. -INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CAPTAIN DE LAURISTON, OFFICER OF ORDINANCE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 3rd, 1813.

You will leave tomorrow at daybreak. You will go to Metz, where you will stop twelve hours. You will find out about all the cavalry regiments in the 3rd Military Division, and from there you will send me a report which will show me how much these regiments have received horses from the markets and voluntary donations; how much they have received from men, either from the conscription of the four years, or from reserve companies or cohorts; what is the situation of managers; when they can send a company of 100 horses for the regiments of cuirassiers, and 125 horses for the regiments of light cavalry; finally, when will they be able to put 250 horses in motion?

You will also see the battalions of military crews organized in Metz; you will know and you will make known to me how much they have received from men, horses, clothing effects; if the 1st company is part of Commercy, and at what time will leave the 2nd, 3rd and 4th.

After having executed these orders at Metz, you will go to Wurzburg to bring the attached letter to the Grand Duke. You will invite the ministers to take care, without losing a moment, of the armament and supply of the citadel. You will take notice and you will report to me. At Wurzburg you will find out where the King of Saxony is, assuming he has left Dresden, and you will set off to meet him.

When you go to Kronach, you will visit this place and report on its location, its armament and its supply.

You will bring to the King of Saxony the attached letter.

At Wurzburg, at Kronach, and at the court of the King of Saxony, you will announce that four armies, forming 300,000 men, are on the march: one, commanded by General Bertrand, leads by Regensburg; the second, under the orders of Count Lauriston, is already at Magdeburg; the third, commanded by the Prince of Moskva,[21]

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is in Frankfurt; the fourth, commanded by the Marshal Duke of Ragusa, meets at Mainz.

If the King of Saxony has left Dresden and you can go safely there, you will go there. You will see the corps of General Reynier. He brought with him two Polish infantry regiments and several cavalry regiments which must be on the side of Meissen. You will also go to see them for their situation, which you will report to me. I ordered the Baron de Serra, my minister to the King of Saxony, to provide them with funds to put them in a position to assemble and equip themselves. You will command these regiments not to lose a moment to reorganize completely.

Make known everywhere that before long we will reject the Russian beyond the Niemen.

You will write me from Würzburg, from Kronach, from where you met the King of Saxony and General Reynier's headquarters.

On your way back, you will pass through Würzburg to make sure you have completed the arming and provisioning of the citadel, Wherever you meet troops, you will stop to see their situation in all respects and the name of their Commander, and you'll be right in realizing it.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19654, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 4, 1813.

By taking a look at the attempts that the enemy could make against us, Brest, Cherbourg, Belle-Ile, the island of Aix, Oleron, Toulon and the islands of Hyeres appear in first league. Let me know if these places are armed, the supplies that exist there, and what is their situation in terms of artillery and fortifications, Let me know the state and the armament of Nieuport, of Ostend, Dunkirk and Calais; Finally, let me know when Le Havre will be armed and when there will be drum parts.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[22]

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19655. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 4, 1813,

You will receive a decree which I have taken to order that the forts of Kehl and Kastel, Wesel, Coevcrden and Delfzyl be placed in stalls. I need a report that will make me aware of the garrisons necessary for Coeverden and Delfzyl. These places must be armed, palisaded, artillery on the ramparts, and they must have commanders, engineers and artillery officers, and storekeepers. Give the order that the service be done with the greatest regularity. You will put Kehl, Kastel, and Wesel in a state of siege, but with care, so as not to make a scandal, to print nothing and not to make a proclamation.

Make me a report on Holland. I think I have nothing order Fort Lasalle, Flushing, Willemstad, Hellevoetsluis and Brielle. Let me know if these places are armed, and propose me the measures it will take for the places of the Yssel. They must be fully armed or disarmed; let me know your opinion on that. It is important that these places can not be used for the enemy, whether he comes on the ground, or has made a landing, or that they are insurgents. We must therefore quickly take a stand on these places. Let me know their situation in terms of artillery, supplies and works. Also for Grave, Breda and Bois-le-Duc. Propose me to put under siege Naarden and Gorcum. These places will have to be supplied. If I had forgotten something in Holland, you would put it back in my eyes. Finally, in the event of the enemy coming to seize Holland, he finds neither cannon nor rifles; all arms must be contained in Naarden, Gorcum, Flushing and Antwerp.

Let me know the number of gunboats needed for the defense of Amsterdam and what would be needed on Lake Haarlem. Was the defensive guard I ordered at the edge of this lake established? You will speak to me of the places which are used for the flood of Amsterdam, in order to pronounce if they must arm them or disarm them. The same thing applies to Groningen: I ordered that everything be transported to Delfzyl; is it done?

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[23]

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19656. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 4th, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, we have been waiting for a fortnight in Turin for your answer on the color of the pelisses, dolmans and trousers, etc., for the 14th Hussars Regiment. February 28th we did not have it yet.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19657. - TO COUNT DARU, MINISTER SECRETARY OF STATE, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 4th, 1813.

I wish you to go to the Comte de Sussy to report to me the cost of 140 customs officers, compared with an infantry company of 140 men, so that I have an exact idea of the proportion. You will see with him if I could not send up to 2,000 customs officers to Holland and Hamburg, in order to keep the coast and shelter from smuggling, by replacing them on the coasts of Brittany. Normandy and Picardy, by people of the country, who are assured that one would have as much as one would like; but before that you would have to know what it costs. Having so many customs officers together, the Comte de Sussy would have to propose some measure to give them chiefs, so as to organize them to serve as reinforcement to the public force, as well as to monitor the coasts.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19658. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE DE FRIOUL,
GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 4th, 1813.

Please let me know if my palaces in Strasbourg and Mainz are in good condition. These two houses may be useful for me, or for some families of Princes of Confederation who would take refuge there.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[24]

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19659. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE DE VALMY, SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Paris, March 4th, 1813.

Cousin, pass all the artillery convoys going to Magdeburg by the Cassel road. Be careful to warn my Minister at Cassel and General Lauriston, It would be advisable that these convoys should be escorted by the detachments that will join the corps of the Elbe. Instruct General Lauriston exactly of the departure of all these convoys.

Bring the Souham division to Aschaffenburg; Bring the 2nd Division of the 1st Corps to Hanau, and the 3rd and 4th to Frankfurt. Order General Souham to review his entire division and to propose topics for all the vacancies. Let me know when the battalions of this division will be entirely organized, that is to say, complete of 800 men; when they have their brigadier generals, their colonels, colonels second, or majors second to command them, finally, when all the vacant places have been appointed, and all the chiefs of battalion are present; when his artillery, his artillery commander, his engineer officer, his sappers' company, his six ambulance boxes, with what is necessary for the dressing of 10,000 wounded, will have arrived; when each provisional regiment will have at least three sappers. Make sure that each man has his pair of shoes on his feet and his two pairs in the bag; that his pay is aware, and if it were not, you would pay the backlog. Make sure that each soldier has 40 rounds in the bag and that the division has its cartridge boxes with its artillery. It is only when I am informed of the situation of this division from all these points of view that I will make it walk forward. Meanwhile, let her take a stand at Aschaffenburg; that General Souham should keep his troops united and tight; let him make everything ready to build a bridge over the Main, so that he can take his direction on Wurzburg, if I give him the order. You will place in Aschaffenburg with this division the 10th of hussars. Recommend to General Souham to have this regiment rest, which will receive detachments from Metz, which will carry him to 1,300 men. The 22nd line is the only whole body in the division of General Souham. Let me know if he has his colonel and if he has his music; it would be very important for this division to have at least one line of music.[25]

25

A company of military crews, destined for the 1st observation corps of the Rhine, must have arrived at Mainz, having 30 ambulance boxes; you will give 6 to each division, and the 6 surplus will be for the general staff of the observation corps.

As for the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, you can join the division Compans in the country of Nassau; but it must not be removed more than one march from the road to Frankfurt. Then the Bond division could be formed in Mainz or nearby. As the detachments of the Souham division come to you, you will send them to Aschaffenburg.

Recommend to General Souham not to disseminate his troops and to place them at least by battalion in the same village.

Let me know also the situation of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th divisions of the 1st corps. Are division generals there? Are brigade generals, command warrant officers, deputies and commanders of different weapons present?

Prescribe cohort regiments to train their music.

Write to Count Hedouville at Frankfort, that he should go to Prince Primate El Lusse to supply the steps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

19660. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORP OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, AT MAGDEBURG;

Paris, March 4, 1813

Count Lauriston, General Belliard writes that he has visited the cavalry which is in the neighborhood of Brunswick, that nothing has been paid to the corps, nor the pay, nor what is due on the different masses, so we miss everything. Give orders for the pay and portions of the mass to be paid, and take all necessary measures to activate the reorganization of this cavalry. Having only 600 horses available, to which General Belliard asks, I think that it is necessary to retain them with all the 1st corps. Any other party would result in nothing but compromising this troop. Remember all this near Magdeburg, where it will be useful to protect the Elbe., We must not send anything beyond the Elbe until the 1st corps is 4,000 horses.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston,[26]

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19661. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN SAARMUND

Paris, March 4th, 1813.

My son, I am assured that Pillau has capitulated, without the trench having been opened, and that there has been a breach in the body of the place. As soon as the general who commanded Pillau is at your height, have him arrested. and the commander of the engineers, unless the latter protested, and escorted them to the citadel of Wesel under escort. It is said that a Russian officer accompanies them; as soon as this officer arrives at the outposts, send him back.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19662. - TO GENRAL DUROC, DUKE DE FRIOUL,
GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 5th, 1813.

The Cavalry of the Guard must arrive on the 12th at Mayence. I find it inconvenient that it crosses from Mainz to Fulde with hand-horses; I think it is more suitable for the circumstances to unite all the Guard at Frankfurt am Main. Immediately, therefore, issue an order by an officer, whom you will send with all diligence and who will leave before noon, to all the depots of the Guard, Cavalry, Artillery, and Infantry, which are in Fulde or Gotha. , to head to Frankfurt. The officer will return at once to give you an account of the situation of all these depots and of the day when they arrive at Frankfort. He will report to the Duke of Valmy, and to the Duke of Treviso, if he meets him. This officer may arrive on the 8th, and these depots may be on the 14th at Frankfort, at the same time as the division part of Paris; so that on the 15th of March the Duke of Treviso will have his headquarters at Frankfort, where the artillery, the cavalry, the infantry, and the crews of the Guard will be assembled in good condition. You will motivate your order on the inconvenience of sending henchmen across Germany. You will inform the Minister of War and the Duke of Valmy.

The cadres of the 1st regiments of skirmishers and voltigeurs will also go to Frankfurt, where they will receive their conscripts sooner. In general, Frankfurt will be the meeting point for all the weapons of the Guard,

Give me an account of the day when the clothes were taken for the different regiments and depots of the Cadre, when they received it or[27]

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will receive it. Tell me also if money has been sent for the pay and if all that was in the deposit in Fulde has been made aware.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19663. - TO COLONEL BERNARD,
AIDE DE CAMP OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 5, 1813,

During the Hannover war, many documents on Hanover were sent to Paris. Since then, during Marshal Mortier's expedition, a large quantity of maps, plans and information have been sent to Paris. You will talk about this with Baron d'Albe, director of my topographical cabinet. Then you will go to the War Repository to gather the best information on the theater of war between the Elbe and the Rhine. You will do some work on the road from Magdeburg to Kassel, from Cassel to Wesel, from Cassel to Frankfurt, from Magdeburg to Hanover and from Hannover to Münster and Wesel. You will notice all the mountains and rivers that are to pass, and cities that have shirts and that could easily be protected from a hand, to determine immediately the works to build. It will first be necessary to consider what position it would take for the army, after having left Magdeburg, in the mountains of Harz, to cover Hanover and Cassel; these mountains must offer parades. We must then examine the Weser, and finally the line of the Ems. You will treat these three different defense leagues, and you will see if there are any more.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19664. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TREUENBRIETZEN

Paris. March 5, 1813,

My Son, I do not know the situation of the army enough to be able to direct it, I have neither its state of situation nor any detailed report of each affair. It is necessary that every day the staff address to the grand marshal recapitulations of two or three pages on each event, and that every five days we send states of situation, We must make known each body. I am so ignorant that I do not know what is the composition of the garrisons[28]

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from Stettin, Küstrin and Glogau. I do not know what has become of the corps that was in Swedish Pomerania, what is the garrison of Spandau, and finally the formation of your divisions; and I do not know where are the Poles, the Lithuanians, the Poles of my Guard. I do not know what artillery you have and supplies. How many men were lost on Posen's side? How many infantry have been left in retirement? How many men have been lost in the case of the 4th of Italian chasseurs? I must have a detailed and daily knowledge of all affairs, otherwise it is impossible to take any part and give the I really do not know why you do not give me a detailed account, I do not know why General Guilleminot left you, what is the chief of staff, yes, command your cavalry? you do not keep anybody, you have done very badly to dismiss the Duke of Castiglione, you must at least have waited for my order, and you have done so badly to dismiss the cavalry generals. The general ....., to whom you have given a command, is a man who is good for nothing. Who finally commands Stettin finally? "General Dulraisse, who was there, was better that General Bruny, and especially that the general, who, I repeat, not worth anything. Who's in charge at Glogau?

General Lauriston concentrates his corps around Magdeburg.

The artillery convoys are on the march, and must arrive there at every moment. It is difficult to think that the Russians are sinking into Germany in great force, leaving on their flanks Danzig, the places of the Oder and the Austrian corps. However, even if they would go to Dresden with the main forces of their army and push parties in different parts of Saxony, that should not disturb you on Magdeburg. You must stay on the Elbe as far as you can, occupying the course of this river from Torgau to Magdeburg, and thus protecting the kingdom of Westphalia and the 32nd military division.

If you were finally compelled by a movement of great force, that is, from 70 to 80,000 infantry, to abandon Magdeburg, you would retreat to the Harz mountains protecting Kassel and Hanover; your line of operation would be taken on Wesel. If you were forced into the Harz Mountains, you would defend the Weser, protect Cassel and the 32nd Military Division. You would leave at Magdeburg 18,000 men with provisions for six months; you would leave in Torgau a good Saxon garrison. The garrison[29]

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Erfurt is arranged and stocked. General Reynier would form your right. The garrison of Alagrleburg would be formed of the division of the 1st corps, the division of the 2nd, of 2,000 Westphalians. Independently of this garrison, you would have in hand more than 80,000 men, the hundred pieces of artillery of the observation corps of the Elbe, and a hundred pieces that you could organize yours, independently of the eighty pieces of General Reynier's artillery, you would really have an army. The corps of the Elbe could form your left and take by Hanover; yours, center, and cover Cassel; General Beynier, the right, and could bond with Frankfurt. But I do not think you are in the case of leaving Magdeburg. It seems to me impossible that you should not finally in the course of March 7 to 8,000 horses, by bringing together all the deposits and all that has been furnished. You would be strengthened by the corps of the king of Westphalia. In this situation, you will not forget to assure yourself that Coeverden is in good condition. Your line of operation would be, as I said, Wesel. Regardless of this, you will maintain the communications of Cassel, Marburg and Frankfurt. A division of my Guard, who had been a party a fortnight ago and arrives at Mainz, having many henchmen, ordered the deposition of Fulde to go to Frankfurt am Main, where I will carry my quarter. General and will gather all my Guard.

On the 15th, the Duke of Treviso will be at Frankfurt with 12,000 men of infantry, sixty pieces of drawn artillery and 2,000 horses. The Prince of Moskva will be there at the same time with the four divisions of his body, forming sixty battalions and One hundred pieces of artillery, The division Souham, which has been for a month in Hanau, will be at Aschaffenburg, in order to make room for the other divisions. I do not advance them because they are not ready and their artillery is not able. The 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, commanded by the Duke of Ragusa, will be formed in Mainz on 30 March. The observation corps of Italy, commanded by General Bertrand, begins its movement from Verona on March 10th. These three corps of observation would form an army of more than 120,000 men, who would be on the Main. Our communications would therefore be maintained by Cassel and Marburg. 15,000 Bavarians will be at the end of the month returned to Hof; as many Wurtembergers, Hessians and Badois will be in Würzburg. The movement of these troops will contain the enemy.

Summary, Stay in Berlin as much as you can. Leaks examples for the discipline. At the slightest insult of a city, a[30]

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Prussian village, burn it, even Berlin, if it behaves badly. If you are obliged to retire to the Elbe, do not leave the Elbe without being entirely obliged to it, since the enemy who would like to turn your right, while advancing, would himself be turned by Wurzburg by the movement of the Elbe. Duke of Elchingen, who could walk on the mountains of Gotha. Defend Honovre, Cassel and the 32nd Military Division for as long as possible. You must extend your left between Magdeburg and Hamburg; I ordered the Westphalians to send a column. The cavalry is formed by force in France, but we still need the whole month of April. In the month of May, the three corps of the Army of the Main will meet with my Guard, a good artillery and a large cavalry, and then I will push the Russians on the Niemen.

I do not approve that you have not sent the battalion of Turin and the officer who commands it, to take up his post, even if it should have been done two hours later: it is by these means that we are restoring morale.

Since you were retreating to Berlin, what are you doing to keep Frankfurt? You only had to burn the bridge. You had Kustrin, but you did not know how to take advantage of this fortress: it did not serve your operations any more than if it did not exist. You must bring somebody from Kassel to your headquarters, who knows the whole kingdom of Westphalia, who is sure, and who can be of use to you. Send also ask the king maps of the country, if you do not have any.

Do not leave Magdeburg and the Elbe without reasonable forces.

If you leave them, keep in touch with them. Magdeburg by the Harz Mountains. Send recognize the position. Write to me every day with truth and great detail.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by its. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19665. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris. March 5, 1813.

Count Lauriston, order the commandant of Erfurt to have drums made at the gates of the city, and to strengthen them, as well as to hoard and close all the breaches which might be found, so that this city is at the shelter of the Cossacks and light troops. In any case, however, the[31]

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The commander and the garrison will lodge in the citadel, but occupy the city by strong posts, which will prevent the enemy parties from pillaging it or making contributions, and keep it intact.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19666. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBA, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 5th, 1813.

Count Lauriston, take a look at your rear, and make the reconnaissance of the road from Magdeburg to Hanover, and from Hannover to Wesel. You will first find the Weser to pass: that river can be passed vis-à-vis Minden and vis-à-vis Hameln; it is therefore proper that you have on these two points a well-secured bridge and a bridgehead. I do not know if enough remains of the fortress of Hameln to be able to quickly make a bridgehead. Formerly Minden was fortified; I do not know whether the place still has an enclosure so that it can be sheltered by a hand, and if the bank is favorable for the establishment of a bridgehead. After the Weser you will find the Ems, the road passes it near Münster; it will be necessary to establish a bridge and a bridgehead. Give orders on that.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19667. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA,
At CASSEL,

Paris, March 5th, 1813.

My Brother, if the enemy pushed hard, the Viceroy with General Lauriston, General Reynier and your corps, which would make an army of more than 100,000 men, would defend Westphalia and the 32nd Military Division, in time that my Guard, the 1st and 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, the corps of observation of Italy, the Wurtembergers and the Bavarians would meet on the Main, which would make an army of more than 200,000 men. It is therefore necessary to prepare the theater.

If the viceroy abandoned Magdeburg, his left would probably retire by the road to Hanover, and his right to Cassel. I asked you to send me a very learned officer, with all the plans[32]

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and information you would have. You will inform me if at Hameln enough remains of the old fortifications to establish a bridgehead which would cover a bridge over the Weser, or whether it would be proper to establish this bridge at Minden. Let me know the result of this recognition, and have the bridgeheads begin, in the form of works of campaign. It will also take a bridgehead to ensure the passage of the Ems near Münster. Have a job done on the whole road from Magdeburg to Wesel, and let me know the positions that the army could take in the Harz to delay the march of the enemy and to cover Hanover and Cassel, taking care to preserve communications with the Main. I asked you for positive information on the road from Cologne and Coblenz to Kassel; if the courier could be established, the correspondence would be more direct and faster. The right-hand column which would retreat on Cassel would have rivers to cross; you must have on each of these rivers a bridge with a bridgehead. All these bridgeheads must be palisaded at the throat to be safe from the Cossacks.

Have this work done immediately and send me this information. You will make a memorandum on that which you send to me, and that you will be ready to send to the Viceroy as soon as he has resolved to leave Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19668. - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

Count Mollien, we are short of money at the Grande Armée, which is doing a lot of damage to my business. Send 150,000 gold francs to the payer in Erfurt, so that all expenses can be covered. If you have not provided that the treasure has the necessary funds at Magdeburg, you must send 2 millions in gold without delay. Order that all the funds of Hamburg, Osnabrück, Münster, etc., those of the treasury and the receivers, or those of the customs, of the collected rights, of the registration, pay their funds twice a week on Magdeburg .

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.[33]

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19669. - IN GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, 6 March 1813.

Duke de Feltre, reiterate the orders to General Decaen so that all that has been asked for leave without delay, so that the captains suitable to be made chiefs of battalion, the lieutenants clean to be made captains and the sub-lieutenants own to be made lieutenants leave to go to France. Repeat the orders so that all useless frames come back. Repeat the orders so that everything that was asked for the Guard also leaves. Make it known to me that I would be very dissatisfied with the non-execution of my orders, and that in the present situation of affairs there must not be *if*, when, or *because*.

Let me know the requests that have been made for my Guard, the day they are gone, the answers you have and what is already here in Bayonne and Perpignan.

Order that the cavalry regiments that are with the Spanish army send back, all their executives in France, keeping only as much tic executives of companies that they have 125 times mounted men, so that the regiments which only 250 men will keep only one squadron or two companies; those who have 375 men will keep only three companies; finally, those with between four and five hundred men will keep only two squadrons.

Let it be known that the generals are responsible for the strict and prompt execution of these orders, to which the great interests of France are attached, since here men and horses are not lacking, but the cadres.

Repeat all previous orders so that the men on foot are fired.

As for the infantry, reiterate the orders so that the regiments are tightened, so that one keeps only as many battalions as there will be 840 men; a regiment of 1,600 men must keep only two battalions, & c.

Finally order that all the cadres of the military crews and the companies of the train are sent back to France. At first all the men will be dismissed, and all the officers and non-commissioned officers will exceed. Order that the sapper companies be all completed to 160 men, and that the cadres who will become useless by this meeting be sent back to France; that all artillery companies are supplemented to 100 men and that executives exceeding[34]

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be sent back to France, joining each of ten former gunners.

Make it clear to the King, the Duke of Albufera, General Reille, General Clausel, and General Decaen, that no objection or delay should interfere with the execution of these orders.

Also order that all second majors and captains in the suite I requested speak without delay; Finally, reiterate the orders so that everything afterwards is returned.

Remember also from Spain all the generals and officers of staff useless in the present situation of our armies of Spain, and leave only what is necessary.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19670. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the 4th Corps of the Grand Army will be suppressed and assembled at the observation corps of Italy. Consequently, the 2nd battalions of the 9th, 35th, 53rd, 106th, 84th and 92nd regiments, which are organized at Augsburg, will await the passage of General Bertrand. These six battalions will form a brigade.

You will order three majors of these regiments to leave Italy to take command of each of two battalions.

The six battalions will thus form three provisional regiments in the following manner: 43rd provisional regiment, the 2nd battalion of the 9th and the 2nd battalion of the 35th; 44th provisional regiment, the 2nd battalion of the 53rd and the 2nd battalion of the 106th, 45th provisional regiment, the 2nd battalion of the 84th and the 2nd battalion of the 92nd.

General Bertrand will place this brigade in his weakest division; which will bring the number of his battalions from 51 to 57.

All that the 4th Corps has in Glogau will be inscribed as a Glogau garrison.

The colonels of these six regiments will go to their depots in Italy, as well as the majors second, if there are any.

All the administrations, artillery and engineer staffs, and staff officers who belong to the 4th Army Corps, will be attached to the observation corps of Italy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[35]

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19671. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE OBSERVATION CORPS OF ITALY, IN VERONA.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

Count Bertrand, you will find attached a copy of a letter which I write to the Minister of War, by which I have gathered to your corps of observation what has been previously part of the 4th Corps of the Grand Army.

Inform yourself whether each of the depots has sent five or six hundred men to complete the two battalions which are organizing at Augsburg. Send the three majors on the spot, and send someone to preside over the formation of these six battalions in provisional regiments. I believe that the Italian army is rearranging three of its battalions at Augsburg, so you will receive an increase of nine battalions; which will bring your body to sixty battalions.

A battalion of garrison companies belonging to your army corps was assembled in Bamberg: I ordered him to take up position in the citadel of Würzburg.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by General Henry Bertrand,

19672. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I receive your letter of the 1st of March; I told you that my intentions were that the Wittenberg and Dessau bridges should be guarded by the two divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps. Have the two artillery divisions organized at once, but in the meantime send them as soon as possible, since without artillery these troops could not defend the bridges. By this means all your corps will be reunited, as I have already ordered you, around Magdeburg. The King of Westphalia must assemble an infantry corps with his cavalry and two-step artillery on your left between Hamburg and Magdeburg. I even wanted him to make a move back and forth on the right bank.

I made you aware of my intention regarding the movements. The 11th Corps, commanded by Marshal Saint-Cyr, the observation corps of the Elbe, which you command, the corps of General Reynier and the Westphalians, close an army intended to cover Magdeburg, the 32nd military division, Hanover and the kingdom of Westphalia. When it's time, I'll wear my headquarters[36]

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at Frankfurt am Main, where I will gather the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine, commanded by the Prince of the Moskva, the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, the corps of observation of Italy, the Bavarians, the Wurtembergers and the Hessians, etc., which I am temporarily carrying on Baireuth, Kronach, and Wurzburg; which will make a mass of 200,000 men at least.

If the viceroy were obliged to leave Berlin, I do not see what could ever force him to leave Magdeburg, since he would still maintain his communication on Wesel by Hanover, and it is not possible that The enemy deploys forces large enough to carry 40,000 men on your left at the same time as 60,000 to 80,000 on Dresden, which would be the only maneuver that could force the Viceroy to leave Magdeburg. The enemy has lost many people; he has a detached corps against the Austrians; he has considerable troops before Deuzig, where Rapp beats them; finally he is obliged to observe all the places; and the position of the Bavarians at Baireuth and that of the Prince of Moskova's corps, which, on the 15th, will be assembled at Frankfort, will compel him to keep his left. It is therefore probable that he will not go beyond Dresden; only he can do some errands with his cavalry, even to Erfurt. The citadel is in a state of defense; give order that instead of two months of supply we put four. I asked you to pick up drums at the gates of the city, so that the 12 to 1500 men who will be in the citadel can remain constantly masters of the city and keep it safe from the races of the Cossacks. The Saxons will occupy Torgau. Thus the Viceroy will have the command of the three corps, which are: yours, that of Marshal St. Cyr, and that of General Reynier; I must add the Westphalians, which makes nearly 100,000 men.

If Magdeburg was abandoned, I sent for the viceroy to take up his position in the mountains of Harz, in order to guard Cassel and Hanover. Have these mountains recognized. In this situation, the Viceroy would retain his communications with Magdeburg. Finally arrive the line of Weser and that of the Ems, since, if events which I do not foresee happened, what would import me first of all, it would be to cover the 32nd military division and finally Holland; Wesel is therefore the fulcrum of all these movements.

You have Atthalin at Magdeburg: use him to recognize the Harz mountains and to take the plans. He will also recognize the bridges of Hameln and Minden on the Weser, and sketch these positions.[37]

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Let me know if you have a number, so that I can use it to correspond with you, if the enemy partisans threatened to intercept the roads.

I have the hope, then, that the viceroy will remain in Berlin, and, if he should evacuate him, that he will be in Magdeburg for a long time, able to maneuver on both banks.

I ordered that all your artillery convoys pass by Cassel: three have already left, I order Gourgaud to send you the report, since the minister has not done so.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19673. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 6, 1813,

Monsieur le Courte Lauriston, you will let me know in what situation the Wittenberg Fort. In the campaign of 1807, I had the garlic to arm and shelter from a coup de main; there was a garrison, and the place served as a depot and to ensure the passage of the Elbe. If the King of Saxony has done nothing to destroy and has no rail to remove the bridges, it will soon be put in condition. Write to the Prince of Eckmühl to restore the redoubts which I had built to bind Wittenberg with the Elbe, and to have the necessary country-work done, to palisade the town, and to bring from Torgau two companies. Saxon artillery, with six pieces of twelve, twelve pieces of six or eight, six howitzers and six small mortars. It will be necessary to distribute these thirty mouths on the various points of the enclosure; which, with the field artillery of the division, will make the place sufficiently safe from a helping hand. The place must be supplied for two months for 3,000 men. If the enemy wanted to cross the Elbe, Wittenberg would become an important point.

If the Viceroy would be obliged to leave Berlin, which I hope he will do only at good stores, I think that a camp should be chosen a league or two from Magdeburg. to fortify by some redoubts; you would find yourself in an offensive position. This encampment would restore discipline and impose on the enemy.

You will soon have three hundred guns; Magdeburg has a large quantity of country pieces. This position in front of Magdeburg seems to me very good. It would be necessary that the enemy[38]

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came with 150,000 men and recognized you for several days in a row before daring to attack you. Occupying, as I have said, Wittenberg with 3,000 men, Torgau with a Saxon garrison, having the Westphalians and part of the Saxons to guard the left bank of the Elbe, you will be able to save time; your cavalry being on the right bank, and threatening to take the offensive, you would keep in check the whole hostile army; Erfurt would be guarded, and your line of operation would be on Wesel. The two corps of observation of the Rhine and the Guard who would be there Frankfurt-on-the-Main will then begin their movements.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19674 - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TREUENBRIETZEN.

Paris. March 6, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of the evening of the 28th of February. You do not instruct me if the battalions which were in Frankfurt have joined you, you give me, as usual, no detail.

I told you that the grand marshal was acting as major-general. It is necessary to send him all the information, for the moment arrives when I must know in detail all the affairs.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19675. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TREUENBRIETZEN.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

My son, for your guidance, it is probable that, in the course of April, I will carry my headquarters to Frankfurt. There are many forces around this city, but there will be so many of them that the enemy will be afraid of being attacked by Thuringia, and we will be able to maneuver to support your right. Thus, in this month, the two observation corps of the Rhine, the Hessians, the Badois and the Bavarians will make a diversion for you. From the beginning of April, if nothing is changed, I will advance the two corps of observation to support even right and to hold in check what the enemy would like to lead by Dresden. But I do not intend to take the offensive until mid-May; I will then have 200,000 men under[39]

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your hand with the proper cavalry, without counting your army, nor those of Lauriston and Reynier. All this is for your guidance.

Remember to cover the 32nd Military Division and the Kingdom of Westphalia. Stay in Berlin as much time as you can. It would be very important for the beginning of the campaign to stay on the Elbe; leaned at Magdeburg, I do not think that you may be afraid of being turned, straddling such a strong river, and unless the enemy deploys a considerable force, like 100,000 men, I can not do not think he can force you to abandon Magdeburg. If you are forced to leave Berlin, it is necessary to contain the enemy, while straddling the Elbe. By the middle of March the Elbe Corps must have received its artillery, and I see that there are many pieces of cannon at Magdeburg, as well as many artillery personnel.

If you abandon Berlin, the choice of a camp, two or three leagues ahead of Magdeburg, which you would strengthen by some redoubts and where you would gather your corps, would make you, it seems to me, unassailable and very formidable. Certainly the enemy could not come to seek you in a good position, unless he had 100,000 men, and you would always be master of maneuvering by the works of Magdeburg. Light bodies of cavalry and infantry on the left bank of the Elbe would maintain your communications with Torgau, if above all you could finally gather 7 to 8,000 cavalry men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19676. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TREUENBRIETZEN.

Paris, March 6th, 1813.

My Son, as it is my intention to assemble all the artillery of the Guard at Frankfort, you must order General Sorbier to send me all the artillery of the Guard, keeping only one company on foot and one on horseback to serve the artillery of the line which will be united with the Guard; let me send all the rest to Frankfurt.

Order also Colonel Lion to keep as many cavalry company cadres as he will have 125 men and those I have sent him. He will return to Frankfurt all the officers and non-commissioned officers who would be useless to these cadres.[40]

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The 1st and 2nd Polish regiments of my Guard, you will direct them on the side of Gotha, from there to relocate, if necessary, on Frankfurt and to meet at the Guard.

Thus the Guard will be divided into two parts; one will be at Frankfort, composed of about forty thousand infantry, six thousand cavalry, and one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon; the other, composed of 3 to 4,000 men of infantry, including the Neapolitans, from 5 to 600 horses, and fourteen pieces of artillery, will be under your orders to the army. I also leave behind your headquarters the part of my house and my horses which made the campaign and which remained under the orders of my squire de Saluzzo, and I organize another part of my house in Frankfurt.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19677. - TO FRÉDÉRIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, TO PLAUEN.

Paris. March 6, 1813.

Brother, I receive the letter which Your Majesty wrote to me from Plauen on the 27th. I desire your Majesty to remain there as long as possible: it would be very useful if it did not leave his States.

Yesterday I sent to your Majesty the Baron de Lauriston, my orderly officer, to inform him of the state of affairs. We have another month to go; we will then be in a very different situation. If from here your Majesty's position becomes urgent, he might go either to Frankfurt or Mainz. I myself intend to carry myself in the course of April to Frankfort, where I shall have 200,000 men united, independently of the corps of the Viceroy, General Lauriston, and General Reynier, destined, as I have summoned to Your Majesty, to act on Magdeburg and on the lower Elbe.

I wish your Majesty to let me know if anything has been changed in place of Wittenberg, or if it remained in the state I had put it during the war of 1807. It was safe from a hand. I had redoubts made for the communication of the bridge with the city; the waters will probably have destroyed them, but they will soon be repaired, if, on the other hand, nothing has been changed in the enclosure and the door system. In this case, my intention would be to transport from Torgau to Wittenberg pieces of 8 and 12, so that 4,000 men could defend themselves.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[41]

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19678. - TO M. GAUDIN, DUKE OF GAETE,
MINISTER OF FINANCE, PARIS.

Paris. March 7, 1813.

I receive your new test from the finance account; but the Council of State makes several changes to the law of finance; it is necessary that in the new tests that you draw, we insert these changes.

Please submit the last proof before the draw.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19679. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 7, 1813.

Give the Invalides two months of gratification, one of which will be given in the name of the Empress. I was told that it would rise to 12,000 francs for a month. Have them also give the equal of use. You will make known to the governor that the Empress having noticed that the officers ate on tin dishes, she ordered a dish, which will remain at the hotel as a souvenir of her visit. You will send a note to the Duke of Cudore on the composition of this dish, which must be sufficient to serve the twelve tables of the officers.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19680. - TO COUNT LAVALLETTE,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE POSTS, PARIS.

Paris. March 7, 1813.

How does it happen that a letter which I wrote to the Duke de Valmy on the 27th of February did not reach him until the 3rd of March?

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19681. - TO BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE, TREASURER GENERAL.
CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAINE, PARIS.

Paris. March 7, 1813 ..

I refer you the decree on special funds. I see that you are only carrying 214,000 francs for the production of materials: houses of the Carrousel; it must be a much larger sum. It is also necessary to bring the product of the houses of the street of[42]

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Rivoli and the location of the palace of the King of Rome. Clear this case and let me know where these funds are.

It would be necessary to remove what is for Monceaux and Marly. Let me know on what funds these 1,200,000 francs for Marly had been affected. Since they have not been paid, it is to be feared that there will be no more funds.

As soon as these two cases are in order, I will sign the decree, which seems to me well.

I would like to have for Friday the budgets of the extraordinary domain of 1811 and 1812 and the budget of 1813.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19682. - TO THE GENERAL BOURCIER,
COMMANDING DEPOSITS OF CAVALRY IN HANNOVER.

Paris, March 7th, 1813.

1,000 men on foot left ten to twelve days ago to go to Hanover.

Send me the situation report of all the horses you have supplied to the artillery, the military crews, and the different cavalry regiments, and let me know when you have horses in addition to the number of men you have.

It is very important that you bring together the detachments of the different corps, and that finally we have a little cavalry to oppose the Cossacks

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19683. - TO GENERAL BOURCIER,
COMMANDING DEPOSITS OF CAVALRY IN HANNOVER.

Paris, March 7th, 1813.

Here are five or six letters which I receive from you without being dated, which is very prejudicial to the service.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19684. - TO MARSCHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Paris, March 7th, 1813.

My Cousin, I receive your letters of March 4th and one of the 5th. You[43]

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must have in Mainz 25,000 quintals of flour in reserve. It is impossible that this does not exist, or that the director of food does not know at least when that will happen. Take some information on it. I attach great importance to having these 25,000 quintals of flour for the needs of the place and the army.

I ordered the supply of Rastel. My orders are that Kehl, Kastel and Wesel be armed and supplied for a month. Make work without delay on the arming of these places.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm, pal 'M, the Duke of Valmy.

19685. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF ITALY, IN VERONA.

Paris, March 7, 1813,

General Bertrand, I receive your letter of February 26, in which I see that you think that on March 25 the observation corps of Italy will be able to cross the Tyrol. But as there is a large defile on this road, in which we can hardly walk except by regiment, it will not be inconvenient for you to start on the 10th or the 12th to send the Neapolitan corps who have long been prepared. You will successively assemble all your divisions at Augsburg, Donauworth, Nordlingen, and in this direction.

I told you yesterday that the six battalions that are forming at Augsburg must be part of your army corps, which will bring you to more than sixty battalions, and the main thing is that you have a staff officer at your disposal. Augsburg to correspond with you and to preside over the organization of the three provisional regiments that will be waiting for you there, you must also have your luggage and your horses spun, but that you remain in Verona as long as possible, so that you To organize all this, it is likely that I will direct you to Vürzburg, destined to be part of the Army of the Main, with the 1st and 2nd Rhine Corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Henry Bertrand.

19686. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, A MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 7th, 1813.

General Lauriston, you are wrong to have concerns[44]

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on the Danes. If there are not enough troops to occupy Lübeck, the commander must return there and request a Danish detachment, until the troops arrive.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19687. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WITTENBERG.

Paris, March 7th, 1813.(1)

My Son, I receive your letter of March 2nd in the evening. I am deeply saddened that you are worried about General Gerard. I can not understand why compromising this observation corps when you could occupy it in Küstrin. I understand even less how you did not walk to him to restore communications, as soon as you knew they were interrupted. If you leave Berlin in this interval, it is to be feared that this corps will be lost. I can not give you any order or direction, since you do not fill it with any duty, by not sending me any details or any kind of account, and you tell me nothing, neither you nor your staff. I do not know which generals command the corps; I do not know where they are; I do not know your situation, your artillery. I do not receive any information; I am in the dark on everything. How do you want me to lead my army? I do not even know the different things that happened and what we lost.

I wrote to General Lauriston on March 1 to give him the direction of your march. I did not write to you by the same mail, because it was necessary to encrypt the letter, which left two days later. So I hope that, on the 3rd, General Lauriston will have informed you of my intentions. I do not know who commands Stettin and which garrison is there. I do not know any more the orders which you gave to General Morand, in Pomerania, if you did it back on Magdeburg or on Stettin. I do not know the strength of the garrison at Küstrin, Glogau, or Spandau.

You must defend Magdeburg, cover the 32nd military division, the kingdom of Westphalia, Hanover and Cassel. You can take a good position ahead of Magdeburg, occupying Torgau by a good Saxon garrison. If you have to leave the Elbe,

1) This letter was signed on the 8th (*Note from the copy*.)[45]

you have the Harz mountains for first line, covering Cassel and Hanover; then, in second line, between Harz and Cassel; finally the Weser.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19688. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 9, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of March 4th. I do not know where General Gerard joined you; I suppose he had already arrived in Berlin when you left that city. I am assured that Major General Girard was captured by the Cossacks, as well as my Secretary of Legation. If this is true, I do not see why you do not instruct me. Since the passage of Lower Oder was impracticable, and in Upper Silesia General Reynier was still at Bunzlau, I do not see what obliged you to leave Berlin. Your movements are so rapid that you have not been able to take the direction indicated to you; but I hope that you will have received my letters in figures, and that elsewhere Lauriston will have informed you that my intention was that you would gather your forces around Magdeburg, joining the corps of the Elbe and all your cavalry, for cover the 32nd military division and the kingdom of Westphalia, and that you take your line of communication by Cassel and Wesel, which must become even fulcrum.

You discover Magdeburg without being sure whether this place is supplied and what garrison will be placed there; there, however, are all our field artillery and many important things.

Nothing is less military than the party you took to carry your headquarters to Schöneberg, behind Berlin; it was very clear that it was attracting the enemy. If, on the contrary, you had taken a situation in front of Berlin, by convoying with Spandau, and Spandau with Magdeburg, having brought a division of the corps of the Elbe halfway or by building some redoubts, the enemy should have thought you wanted to fight. Then he would have passed the Oder only after having collected 60 to 80,000 men and with the serious intention of seizing Berlin; but he was still far from being able to do that. You could have gained twenty days, and that would have been a good deal politically and militarily. It's even likely he did not[46]

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risked this movement, for he knows well what he is exposing himself to, and can not ignore the great quantity of troops which we gather on the Main, and, on the other hand, those which the Austrians gather in Galicia. But the day your headquarters was placed behind Berlin was to say that you did not want to keep that city; you have thus lost an attitude that the art of war is to know how to preserve.

An experienced general, who would have established a camp in front of Küstrin, would have given the Elbe observation corps time to come to Berlin; or at least, if this general had taken a camp in front of Berlin, he could have been attacked only by great dispositions which he would have forced the enemy to take.

At present, I repeat to you, since the enemy has not been able to pass on the low Oder, I hope that it will be time still to follow the general direction which I indicated to you. You will stand in front of Magdeburg; you will join the corps of the Elbe and the entire 11th corps. You must even have time to gather your 12,000 cavalrymen and your two hundred pieces of cannon, which you must have throughout March. In this position you must prevent any party from going to Hamburg.

If the enemy went to Dresden, General Reynier would retire to Torgau and form your right. If Wittenberg is in the same situation as in the Prussian campaign, if nothing has been demolished, in four days he can be put under the shelter of a hand, brought twenty pieces of the artillery of Torgau, to collect supplies there, and 2 to 3,000 men suffice to preserve this bridgehead. The bridge of Dessau must be burnt at once. It is necessary to gather all the boats of the Elbe in Magdeburg, Wittenberg and Torgau.

I have informed you that the garrison of Magdeburg was to be formed by the twenty-eight battalions of the 1st and 2nd corps, leaving no Marshal, but only two generals of division and four brigadier generals under the command of the General Haxo, whom I have appointed governor of this place. These young troops, with good cadres, will form very well the garrison of this city, and I do not see how the enemy could march on you to flush you out of Magdeburg, since you will be forward with nearly 80,000 men. The enemy parties of Dresden will beat all Thuringia, but the line of communication with Frankfurt will be by Cassel. 1,200 men with a brigadier general will remain in the citadel of Erfurt; I ordered that we build drums[47]

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gates of the city, so that this garrison is in position to put the city safe from the Cossacks. In the situation of things, it is not possible that within a month the enemy could have more than one army corps, that is to say more than 20 to 25,000 men, in front of Magdeburg. You must therefore build some redoubts, gather your supplies at Magdeburg, beat all Prussia by strong vanguards, and not suffer that the enemy approaches more than a day from you, unless it is with all his army corps.

You have everything in Magdeburg; the country is beautiful; the Elbe is a pretty big river; it is at this moment that it overflows and is the biggest. The Rhine Observation Corps, which is already meeting at Aschaffenburg, Hanau and Frankfurt, will threaten the enemy's left. The bulk of the Russian army of Wittgenstein remained before Danzig; I do not think, therefore, that if the enemy wants to march in great force and find you from the Magdeburg position, he can do it before mid-April, and I do not even see how the Russian army, in the present situation, business, could force you into a good position, where you will have as much field artillery as you like, and which you will have covered by some works. You have nothing to fear since communication with Magdeburg can never be taken away. If it is a beautiful position, it is the one in front of Magdeburg, where you threaten at every moment to attack the enemy, and from which you will attack him indeed if he does not appear in force, having on your right a good place like Torgau, linked to your army by a good post like Wittenberg. If this last city were demolished and no longer tenable, it would be necessary to burn the bridge and the small bridges, which end there.

I suppose that you gave orders to General Morand, in Pomerania, for him to take refuge at Stettin, or retire to you, and that you will not have allowed him to be compromised.

You do not say anything in your letters. I have already told you several times that in the current situation of affairs I needed to know the truth in all its details. It is necessary to send me the nominative state of the men whom we will have lost, the situation of all the corps and, every five days, their state of location. I told you that your staff could send daily detailed reports to the grand marshal, who would put them in front of me quicker than the minister could. It would be shameful to say so, and the world would not believe it: I do not know which general commands Stettin, which garrison you have left;[48]

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you do not even bother to tell me who the general is, what garrison you leave at Spandau. I do not know what generals you have; I do not know who commands your cavalry. Finally, I have no idea about the situation of your artillery, your engineers, or even your infantry

I order you to inform your Chief of Staff that if he does not send very detailed reports every day, independently of any correspondence, I will make a harsh example. I am informed of what is happening only by English newspapers. You have had two or more cavalry business: I still do not know your loss.

By the march you have made on Wittenberg, a movement which fortunately can be repaired, since the enemy is not in force, you have left the whole of the 32nd Military Division and the Kingdom of Westphalia uncovered. By that, you find yourself losing all the cavalry, which is scattered in the cantonments, and you deliver to a vanguard of some thousand men the most beautiful provinces of the Empire.

I have always told you that you must retire to Magdeburg; by withdrawing on Wittenberg, taking your line of operation on Mainz, you not only compromise the 32nd division, but even you compromise Holland and my squadron of the Scheldt. Many troops are already assembled on the Main; but in a month an army of 200,000 men will be in line, and, as long as you know how to take a camp and a position near Masdeburg, you must hold more than a month against an enemy who, moreover, has the most of his forces were occupied at Danzig, at Warsaw, in Galicia, which is obliged to observe the places of the Oder and which has suffered so much. Ban all communication from the left bank of the Elbe with the enemy. As soon as the Russians realize that you have halted, and that you have made up their minds to dispute the ground, you will oblige them to concentrate before you: but today they can not have an available army equal to the your; they weaken and when you strengthen.

I suppose you shot the guard officer who left his post without a fight.

If, on the side of Havelberg, on your. left, there on the left bank of the Elbe there was a post or small village which could be put under the shelter of a coup de main, it would be necessary to do so, in order to establish the corps of troops which must guard the lower Elbe.

As soon as you have taken a position on Magdeburg, and you have forbidden any communication with the enemy, you will take[49]

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all the proper arrangements to make believe that I arrive at Magdeburg and that the army will advance.

You will inform Hamburg, and everywhere, that you will not leave this line without a battle, and that the enemy can not advance leaving behind a river like the Elbe and 80,000 men well posted and resumed.

As for your cavalry, you will get tired of it, if you keep it together and make it march with good infantry corps, but, if you disseminate it, you will still have what happened to the 4th Italian chasseurs and to both Lithuanian regiments.

Make it clear what position to take in the event of an unexpected event on the Harz, and the other positions from which you could cover Hannover and Kassel.

I suppose you only left in the Oder and Spandau forts the number of designated artillery companies. You have in the army all the necessary material for your artillery; you even have enough boxes for a supply. Your second supply will be sent to you by Wesel; but you do not need the second as long as you are near Magdeburg, since you will withdraw from that place all the ammunition you want.

We are soon at the end of March; the season is already softened and you can start camping by establishing barracks, cutting the forests and demolishing the villages, finally considering only the military reason. General Bourcier assured that in the course of March he would provide you with 12,000 well-equipped and well-mounted horses. In the position you are going to take, you will not need as many cavalry. As soon as you have taken the position, and you have been able to gather 4 to 5,000 horses, a point which you would have made in the direction of Stettin, with this vanguard and some good infantry corps to support it, would fill the an enemy of fear and would make him give up any flanking movement.

In this position on Magdeburg, make proclamations to reassure Hamburg, the 32nd Division, and the Kingdom of Westphalia. Declare that you will not abandon the Elbe, that the enemy is not strong enough to cross it.

You can place in Magdeburg your hospitals and your administrative headquarters; but you will stand by yourself, with your staff, at the camp. This system of barracks will be all the more useful if it will form the army. I repeat, if Wittenberg[50]

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did I leave it, that is, if it was not demolished, it is a good job; it will be enough to build two or three redoubts which bind it well to the river, works that can be done in a few days. The enemy does not have an infantry capable of attacking you today, and you are certainly more numerous than anything he can present to you.

The 3rd Cavalry Corps was formed at Metz, and more than 40,000 horses were in motion to meet at Frankfurt on the Main. The Duke of Treviso has already left for that city; the Prince of Moskova will be returned in three days.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Mm, Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19689. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 10, 1813.

I read with surprise your letter of March 9th. I thought that the 27,000 rifles given to the princes (the Confederation were not given by our stores, but by our manufactures.) This situation is quite alarming, and not only is there not a moment to lose to give to the manufactories of arms the activity necessary for the products of the last months to be 150,000 rifles, but even this manufacture must be activated by extraordinary means.-What is 150,000 rifles, almost nothing, it would take 300,000, in order to be able to arm the conscription of 1815, which I will probably raise on the 1st of January, 1814, and have 150,000 of it in store.

Give me a report on how to activate this manufacturing.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19690. - TO THE GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIULL, GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 11, 1813.

I refer you a note sent to me by the Minister of War. You will see by this note that it is as if I had done nothing to the Invalides, and that the men to whom I have announced graces, of my mouth, will not enjoy them. It seems that Colonel Bernard, or the aide-de-camp who was on duty at the Hotel des Invalides, handed over his work to the Minister of War instead of presenting it fot my[51]

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signature. This will drag in the offices and nothing will be executed. You will therefore order Colonel Bernard to resume his work, so that I may sign it. I would like you to write a circular to all my aides-de-camp to let them know that, whenever I have commissioned them on a mission or written notes under my dictation, they must hand over to me their work. Even I want that in the day after tomorrow I have signed all this, so that I do not hear any more about it.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19691. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

The Duke of Feltre, my Minister of War, the 11th Corps and the 1st Divisions of the 1st and 2nd Corps have in Germany the equipment they need to be supplied and supplemented with a simple supply, and if it were necessary to complete the two supplies would have to send caissons from France. You led two convoys from Wesel and six from Mainz to Magdeburg; which makes 541 wagons, including eighty-four guns; so that, for the complete equipment of the corps of the Elbe, it would remain to send eight guns and 92 wagons. You must order General Lauriston to cede to the 11th corps ten caissons and to complete himself to ninety-two guns, by employing the couplings of the caissons given up; so that I materialize his corps will be ninety-two guns, with a supply and a half and an eighth supply. The half-supply with the fraction will form the reserve of the corps of the Elbe and will serve the 11th corps, depending on the circumstances.

All the caissons that will be procured at Magdeburg will be loaded, and they will be harnessed as General Bourcier supplies horses to complete the two supplies.

It is proper that the artillery constructions should not be slowed down for a single moment at Magdeburg, so that, when one is in front, one can find in this place something to repair all kinds of losses and consumptions.

The Durutte division, or the 32nd, which is with the 7th corps, must be part of the army of the Elbe; she must have twenty guns with double supply.[52]

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It is very important to organize the artillery of the corps of the Main, since the four divisions of the 1st corps of the Rhine will begin their march. It is necessary, then, that this corps should have its ninety-two guns with a simple supply; which makes a total of 400 wagons and 2,058 horses. This corps must be on April 1st on Würzburg and in the line.

The 2nd corps of the Rhine is to march on the 10th of April; he must therefore, at that time, have at Mainz his ninety-two guns and his supply, that is to say, 400 wagons and 2,058 horses.

The observation corps of Italy is in motion at this moment; he must arrive on the Danube with seventy pieces; they must have at least their simple supply. The second supply, which is in Verona, will be dragged by bad horses to Augsburg, where he will receive another 1,000 horses.

Lastly, from the 10th to the 20th of April, the Guard will make a movement of Mayence, and for that time it must have four batteries on horseback, itself; twenty-four mouths fire; eight batteries on foot, or sixty-four guns: together, eighty-eight. Of the eight batteries on foot, there will be two spare ones. These batteries, with a simple supply, require 350 wagons and 2,100 horses.

The observation corps of Italy must have ninety-two guns; it is therefore necessary to supply Strasbourg with the twenty-two missing guns, with a simple supply. They would have to be ready in Strasbourg on the 10th of April; they would be sent to Wurzburg, where the observation corps of Italy passes.

The army of the Main will have, around April 10, three hundred and sixty-four guns, 1,550 artillery wagons and 8,274 horses.

The second supply of the two corps of the Rhine Nos. 1 and 2, consisting of 488 caissons and 2,440 horses; that of the twenty-two pieces added to the corps of Italy, consisting of 45 caissons and 225 horses; that for the artillery of the Guard, consisting of 330 wagons and l, 650 horses, forming a total of 863 wagons and 4,315 horses, will have to be in Mayence for the 20th of April and will be under the orders of the second director of the parks , attached to the Army of the Main. The two mounted batteries and the two Foot batteries of the Guard, making the complete of one hundred and twenty guns, will have to be returned to Mayence on April 30, as well as the four spare parts attached to the Park of the Guard. It is necessary that two of the four mounted batteries which are to be organized at Metz for the 3rd cavalry corps are for the 10th, and the two others for the 30th of April; so that[53]

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I will have at the army of the Main, for the 30th of April, four hundred and twenty guns, having a simple supply with the corps, and at Mayence a park of 900 wagons.

It will still be necessary to increase this park: (1) double supply of the 11th corps or 240 caissons; Secondly, what is lacking in the double supply of the corps of the Elect.

The 2nd divisions of Corps No. 1 and No. 2 of the Grand Army will be formed at Wesel of the 4th Battalions; they must have at Wesel, on the 11th of April, each two batteries on foot with a simple supply.

It is necessary for the engineers to take steps to ensure that his equipment attached to the 1st corps of the Rhine can depart from the 20th to the 30th of March, and that the one attached to the 2nd corps of the Rhine can leave from the 1st to the 10th of April.

I have just made a decree which carries the artillery of the Guard to six companies on foot for the old Guard, to six for the young Guard, to six for the artillery on horseback; total, eighteen companies.

I have also just ordered a new horse lift from the Guard train, which will bring them to 5,000.

I fear that, of the 2, 600 horses left with the convoys for the corps of the Elbe, there are not counted those parties with the two corps of the Rhine.

This letter contains only the same elements that I have made known to you; only I indicate the times and the corps where I want to have the equipment of the hitched artillery.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19692. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 11, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, order General Bertrand to direct the movement of the observation corps of Italy so that his first division, that is to say, that which he will put first in motion, will be restored. April 15 in Nuremberg, without passing through Munich. It will pass through Augsburg and from there will go to Nuremberg in two columns, one by Neuburg and the other by Donauwœrth.

That at the same time his 2nd division was returned to Neuburg, his third to Donuuwœrth and his fourth to Augsburg; that his cavalry was at the same period between Augsburg and Donauwœrth, with all his park and his[54]

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military crews; that at last his headquarters, generals of artillery and engineers, and his chiefs of administration, were all sent to Augsburg on the 5th of April.

Arrange for all provisional regiments to have a major or colonel second to command them. The generals who must join these divisions will be directed to the cities where they must arrive, as has just been said.

Order the Prince of the Moskova to have his headquarters at Hanau on the 15th of March, to assemble his commanders of artillery and engineers, his commanding officer, and his staff; to send the 1st Division, which is at Aschaffenburg, to take up position at Wurzburg, after having attached to this division its two batteries of foot artillery, with a simple complete supply, the necessary infantry caissons, a ambulance of six caissons with objects of dressing for 10,000 wounded, and to make sure that this division has its general of division, its two generals of brigade and the heads of service necessary.

This division will be confined to Würzburg and the surrounding area; there will be attached a brigade of cavalry, which will be composed of the 10th regiment of hussars, a regiment of cavalry of Baden and a regiment of cavalry of Hesse-Darmstadt.

A cavalry brigadier general will command this brigade.

The 2nd Division of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps will meet on March 20th in Aschaffenburg. The 3rd and 4th divisions will be united at the same time at Hanau.

As soon as the 2nd Division has its artillery, caissons, ambulance, brigade generals, etc., the Prince of the Moskva will send her to Wurzburg and have her replaced at Aschaffenburg by the 3rd Division. The prince will keep his headquarters at Hanau until further notice, leaving none of his troops at Frankfort, the latter city being destined to receive the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine.

You will let him know that he must throw two bridges on the Main, so that the road to Wurzburg is easier; that he must ensure that the citadel of Würzburg and the small fortress of Koenigshofen are well armed and supplied; that it is probable that on the 1st of April he will receive orders to carry his headquarters to Wurzburg and to assemble his four divisions there; that the troops of Hesse-Darmstadt, who are to form six battalions, those of the Grand Duke of Baden, who must form eight, and the three battalions of Prince Primate, will form a division which will be under the orders of[55]

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General Marchand, and that I would order these contingents to go to Würzburg,

Order General Marchand to carry his headquarters there and to correspond with these different courses to activate the arrival of the troops he is to command. The Wurtembergers, who form 8 to 10,000 men, will also be under the orders of General Marchand and form another division. These two divisions of allied troops will be part of the corps that the prince of Moskova commands. As soon as Souham's division arrives in Würzburg, the Merchant division will be ahead of the Schweinfurt management.

Warn the prince of Moskova of these dispositions. Warn him also that the King of Bavaria, at Bamberg, Baircuth, and Krollach, has fifteen battalions and 2,000 horses under the command of General de Wrede; that this division will also be under his orders, which will bring the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine to seven divisions, namely: four French divisions and three allied divisions.

His cavalry, which is 1,900 horses, will consist of the 10th hussars, a Hessian regiment and a Baden regiment: these three regiments will make a brigade. The Prince of Moskva will also have a Württemberg Cavalry Brigade and a Bavarian Cavalry Brigade; which will make three brigades, which he will put under the orders of a general of division of cavalry.

You will inform him that the King of Bavaria must have given orders to arm the place of Kronach, and that the Grand Duke of Würzburg must have had the citadel of Wurzburg armed; that these two: places must be supplied; that from this position the prince must keep all the mountains of Thuringia, while keeping his troops grouped; that he will receive orders according to the circumstances.

You will inform my minister at Stuttgart that the Wurtemberg division is to meet under the orders of General Marchand, and to be part of the corps of the Prince of Moskva at Wurzburg.

You will give notice to my minister at Munich, that the Bavarian troops whom General von Wrede assembles at Bamberg, Baireuth, and Krouach are under the orders of the Prince of Moskova, whose headquarters will be taken to Wurzburg.

Finally you will instruct my ministers at Baden and Darmstadt that the Baden and Hessian brigades will form a division which will form part of the corps of the Prince of Moskva, and which will meet at Würzburg under the orders of General Marchand.[56]

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By these arrangements you see that it is important that the artillery of the 3rd and 4th Divisions also arrived in Frankfurt from the 20th to the 25th of March, so that these seventy-two pieces of artillery might be assembled at Wurzburg.

You will inform the Duke of Ragusa that it is indispensable that, on the 20th of March, he should have his headquarters at Mainz, in order to see his troops himself; that by 1 April his headquarters should be taken to Hanau, and that from 1 to 15 April the four divisions should be placed in Aschaffenburg and Hanau, unless there is a change in the subsequent provisions. You will communicate to him the orders given for the movement of the 1st Rhine Corps. Finally you will make known to the Prince of Moskva and the Duke of Ragusa the place where will be the four divisions of the corps of Italy at the same time, that is to say from the 1st to the 15th of April.

The whole Guard will meet at Frankfort, cavalry, infantry, artillery.

Make all of these arrangements known to Valmy. Make known all these provisions also to the Minister of War Administration, so that he takes steps to ensure that the three battalions of military crews attached to the 1st and 2nd corps of the Rhine, as well as observation corps of Italy, be ready. Let him know that the main headquarters of the Army of the Main will be in Frankfurt on April 1st; that it is therefore necessary for him to give orders for a medical assistant to the Chief Medical Officer of the Grand Army, an assistant surgeon to the chief surgeon, a deputy chief pharmacist, two authorizing officers, one of the hospitals the other subsistence, and deputy chiefs of service to those who are chief of the army, are to be returned to Frankfurt on the 1st of April for the service of the general headquarters.

After having given all these orders and taken all these dispositions, give me the general state of situation of all the corps d'armee, with the time when their infantry, their artillery and their cavalry will arrive. Put in the names of the majors or majors in second who command the regiments, as well as the indication of the battalion chiefs who exist. Finally put in detail all that composes their equipment of artillery and engineering. You will add the formation of the 3rd Cavalry Corps, and what I ordered for the squadrons of the 1st and 2nd Corps to leave France; how many divisions that will do, and what will be done on the Rhine from 1 to 15 April.

Let me know also the organization of the division that will form the sixteen 4th battalions of the 1st corps and that which will be composed[57]

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of the twelve 4th battalions of the 2nd; the day they will have to move, the place where they will meet; the two generals of division and the four brigadier generals who will command them.

All those battalions who are on the banks of the Rhine can embark on this river to arrive, without getting tired, at Wesel, where my intention, as I have told you, is to unite these two divisions.

After that I must do the work of the interior, dispose of all the generals who remain for this service, and compose the demi-brigades and the brigades which must assure our system of defense.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19693. - DECISION.

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

The Minister of War proposes to the Emperor to grant the epaulette to the officers for the nursing companies, as it was granted to those of the military crews.	Refused, not even arming the soldiers, even with a sword. NAPOLEON.

From the original. Archives of the Empire.

19694. - TO THE VICE-ADMIRAL COUNT DECHESS,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS,

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

I can not imagine how *Gloire* was taken by a corvette and two or three brigs; Was is not stronger than these ships?

I would like you to crack me a plan of cruising about thirty frigates that we would take out of all our ports, even the Texel, the mouths of the Meuse and the Scheldt, to cross in a timely manner and to hurt the enemy. We have two of these frigates at the Texel, two at the mouths of the Meuse, four in the Scheldt, which is already eight for the North. We have two in Cherbourg, one in Saint-Malo, six in Brest, two in Nantes, and two in Rochefort: it makes them multiply so as to have thirty.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[58]

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19695. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON,
COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF THE ELBE, IN MAGDEBURG.

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

Count Lauriston, the courier of Magdeburg of the 6th has arrived, and I have no letter from you.

The fifth convoy of artillery left Mainz by Cassel for your army corps; many staff officers have been sent to you; a company of military crews, carrying five ambulances, which are sufficient to heal 5,000 men, has departed: thus your corps begins to take on a physiognomy.

My intention is that the four divisions of your corps and the 11th corps are fully united. The troops have to be barred in a good position.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

193696.-TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY,
COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of March 5th. It is very unfortunate that some light troops have been delivered to Berlin and Dresden. I suppose, however, that General Reynier will remain in Dresden for as long as possible.

We must finally begin to wage war. All my letters will have made you aware of my intentions. I am writing to you again today. It is in front of Magdeburg that you must assemble 80,000 men, and from there, as a center, protect the whole of the Elbe. If you prefer to bring to Dessau the Bavarian corps which was at Krosseu, you will be able to gather under the prince of Eckmühl, in Wittenberg, the two divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps; which will put you in a position to occupy the city, which must be sheltered with a stroke of the hand, at the same time as all that left bank of the Elbe.

I suppose you kept two division generals and four brigade generals for these two divisions. This does not prevent that in case you leave Magdeburg, which does not seem possible to me, you bring these two divisions to form the garrison. By taking a good line, reuniting your cavalry and threatening to reach Brandenburg and Stettin, you will leave the enemy in uncertainty, and you will be in a good position, since it is the fact that the Russians have not[59]

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today more troops available than you have yourself. The artillery convoys of the observation corps of the Elbe are spinning by force. You will gather a Westphalian corps two days from Magdeburg on the Elbe, between Magdeburg and Hamburg.

Take energetic measures to make the supply of your army to the Magdeburg province in Prussia, several days' march from your camp, by making severe examples, according to the custom of the war, whenever you would not obey your requisitions.

Have requisitions also made in the provinces of Halle, Halberstadt, etc., and make abundant payments. You will go with good ones which will then be liquid; but be careful that your camp does not miss anything.

I do not understand why you dismissed General Belliard, it would have been useful for the whole cavalry; but you send everyone away, and do not send anyone away. I have not approved the appointment of squadron leaders Faudoas, Galbois, Fontenille and Vence to cavalry regiments: they are too young and do not have enough experience of the cavalry. You will find attached a copy of the decree by which I have furnished these regiments. Make sure the colonels go to their corps on the spot. You will also find a decree by which I appoint squadron leaders Galbois and Fontenille commanding warrants. Order these two commanding warrant officers to proceed without delay to Frankfurt am Main, where they will be attached to the headquarters of the Army of the Main.

I look forward to your situation.

I sent money to the Magdeburg central bank; that fund was out; it must be returned. Moreover, in case of siege, it would be necessary to leave Magdeburg one million.

The 1st regiment of Polish lancers of my Guard has 600 men and 300 horses; the 3rd has 600 men and 280 horses; order General Bourcier to supply these regiments with the 600 horses they need, and the regiments to send back to Hanover to receive these 600 horses.

Hold the Il Corps, commanded by Marshal Saint-Cyr, and the observation corps of the Elbe, together with Gerard's division. These nine divisions will form your army corps.

The divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps, the Bavarians, the Poles, the Westphalians and the Saxons must border the left bank of the Elbe and have posts on the right bank. If, two days of walking[60]

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on the left, between Magdeburg and Hamburg, the Elbe makes an elbow, one could establish a bridgehead, or a post sheltered from the Cossacks and light troops, with a back and forth; this would be important and would prevent enemy partisans from venturing into Mecklenburg. Our military operations are the object of the ridicule of our allies in Vienna and our enemies in London and St. Petersburg, because the army is constantly leaving eight days before the enemy infantry arrived at approach of the light troops and on simple noises. It is time for you to work and act militarily; I have traced all you have to do. You can gather at Magdeburg, and covered by this place, more troops than the enemy can oppose. From then on, that's where we have to stay; and the enemy is not mad enough to advance with all his might, exposing himself to being cut off by the army assembled on the Main. By faithfully following the plans I have drawn for you, by making vanguards march in all directions, you will keep the enemy on the alert and you will resume the proper position; it is you who will carry the alarm everywhere.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuehtenberg.

19697. NOTES FOR THE VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 11, 1813.

The line from Havelberg to near Wittenberg is only about twenty-four leagues; it is covered for three quarters by the Havel, by the lakes and by streams of water. This line has the advantage of placing the vanguard at Brandenburg, that is, at a great march in Spandau.

From Magdeburg to Wittenberg there are three short days; from Wittenberg to Dresden there are four or five, so from Dresden to Magdeburg there are seven or eight days' march. From Magdeburg to Havelberg there are three days of walking; from Havelberg to Hamburg seven days ago. From Havelberg to Berlin there is only three days of walking, the same distance as from Wittenberg to Berlin. From Havelberg to the Oder there are only six steps; Havelberg is the shortest route to Stettin. It is conceivable, therefore, that the principal object of the French army must be to arrive promptly to the aid of Danzig, supposing the Elbe army assembled at Magdeburg, Havelberg, and Wittenberg, and the army of the Main united[61]

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under Wurzburg, Erfurt, and Leipzig, a natural movement, which would be easily stolen from the enemy, would be to have the entire army of the Elbe, followed by the army of the Main, passed by Havelberg on Stettin; so that we would have arrived in this city, we would find ourselves having passed the Oder and have gained ten days' march, without the enemy, who is at Dresden, Glogau or Warsaw, being able to curl up to cover Danzig.

After making all the attempts to suggest that I want to go to Dresden and Silesia, my intention will probably be (to cover the mountains of Thuringia and the Elbe) to carry me by Havelberg, to reach the marches forced on Stettin with 300,000 men and continue the march of the army on Danzig, where one can arrive in a fortnight; and on the twentieth day of the movement, after the army had crossed the Elbe, this city would have been unblocked, and Marienburg, the island of Nogal, and all the bridges of the lower Vistula would be mastered. So much for the offensive order.

For the defensive order, the main purpose being to cover the 32nd military division, Hamburg and the kingdom of Westphalia, it is the point of Havelberg which forms all this. Also, for the offensive, would it be much better than Magdeburg was vis-à-vis Werben; but there is no remedy for that. I wish the Havelberg Point to be recognized to see if it could not be armed so as to put 2,000 men out of the reach of a hand and to oblige the siege artillery to open the trench. It would then be necessary to have a bridge over the Elbe, which would easily be done vis-à-vis Werben by a bridgehead. If Werben has a compound like Wittenberg, if he has ditches full of water, we can quickly make a good post and build a bridge and a good bridgehead vis-à-vis. A Westphalian division, and even one of the divisions of the army, could then gain a foothold and be seated on both banks. This point has an effect on the Mecklenburg, it is, again, the most favorable point to go quickly to the aid of Danzig, reason which must be disguised well.

We can only take the offensive in the beginning of May. At that time Danzig may be besieged; it is therefore convenient to be able to reach this place to raise the siege before the end of June, which can only be done after having deceived the enemy by opening by Havelberg, Three quarters of the army can be gathered in Werben, to multiply in columns on Stettin, and to be already halfway to Stettin without the enemy[62]

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know nothing about it. The observation corps that we would leave would take refuge in Magdeburg.

The Viceroy must feel the importance of these notes. It is proper that he tear them as soon as he has read and understood them well, so that in no event can it be abused.

It is necessary that he have the geographers and the engineers recognize the neighboring points of Havelberg or Sandow, or any other point overlooking the river, which may favor or prevent its passage. If one wanted to march on Berlin, the most favorable points would still be the same; we would come out with Werben and Wittenberg. If Werben were too far from the river, or could not offer the advantages, Sandow and Havelberg would have to be seen: these two points seem to have enclosures and to be joined by a large swamp.

According to the minute. Empire Archives.

19698. - DECREE.

Trianon. March 12, 1813.

FIRST ARTICLE. The 1st corps of the Grande Armée will be composed of the 1st. 2nd and 3rd divisions.

The 1st division will be composed first of the 16 2nd battalions of the regiments of the 1st corps; the 2nd, of the sixteen 4th battalions; the 3rd, of the sixteen 3rd battalions.

When the three divisions can join, then the battalions will be reunited by regiment; two divisions will each be composed of five regiments, and one will be composed of six.

ART. 2. The 2nd Corps will consist of the 4th, 5th and 6th Divisions of the Grand Army.

The 4th division will be composed of the 12 2nd battalions of the regiments of the 2nd corps. The 5th division will be the one composed by the twelve 4th battalions. The 6th division will be composed of the twelve 3rd battalions.

These divisions will then be formed, like those of the 1st corps, by regiment, and each division will then be of four regiments.

ART. 3. The 3rd Corps of the Grand Army will consist of the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Divisions.

The 8th division will be the Souham division, which is currently the 1st of the 1st observation corps of the Rhine.

The 9th will be the 2nd of the 1st observation corps of the Rhine. The 10th will be[63]

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the current 3rd of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps. The 11th will be the 4th of the same corps.

ART. 4. The 4th corps will be composed of the observation corps of Italy. The present four divisions of this observation corps will take Nos. 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the Grande Armée and form the 4th corps.

ART. 5. The 5th corps will consist of the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th divisions. The four divisions that currently make up the corps of the Elbe will take these numbers and form the 5th corps.

ART. 6. The 6th corps will be composed of the four divisions of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, which will take Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23.

ART. 7. The 7th Corps will be composed of the two divisions of the Saxon contingent, which will take Nos. 24 and 25, and the 32nd Division, now Durutte, which will retain its number.

ART. 8. The 8th corps will be composed of the two Polish divisions, which will take Nos. 26 and 27.

ART. 9. The 9th corps will be composed of the Bavarian corps, whose two divisions will take Nos. 28 and 29.

ART. 10. The 10th corps will be composed of the three divisions which form the garrison of Gdansk: these divisions will retain Nos. 7, 30 and 33, which they currently have. Everything in Danzig of the former 34th Division will be placed in the 30th Division.

ART. 11. The 11th corps will remain formed, as it is now, of the 31st, 35th and 36th divisions. The five battalions of the Gerard division, 3rd, 105th, 127th and two Neapolitan battalions will be part of this division.

ART. 12. The Westphalian contingent will form a division, to be called the 37th.

The Württemberg contingent will form a division, which will be called the 38th.

The contingents of Hessen-Darmstadt, Baden and Prince Primate will form a division, to be called the 39th.

The four regiments of the Vistula, the three Polish regiments that were in Spain, and the Lithuanian regiments will together form the 40th division.

The 41st division will be composed of the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 123rd; 2nd and 4th battalions of the 124th; 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 127th; 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 128th; 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 129th; together, ten battalions. He will train in Erfurt.

ART. 13. All the regiments of the 1st corps garrisoned in the places of the Oder will be carried to the 1st corps; it will be the same with the regiments of the 2nd corps in the garrisons.[64]

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All that the 31st Division will have left in the garrisons will also be brought to the attention of the 31st Division.

All that the 4th corps left to Glogau will be carried to the 4th corps or to the corps of Italy.

ART. 14. The 1st corps will be commanded by Prince Eckmühl; the 2nd corps by the Duke of Bellune; the 3rd by the Prince of Moskova; the fourth by General Bertrand; the 5th by General Lauriston; the 6th by the Duke of Ragusa; the 7th by General Reynier; the 8th by Prince Poniatowski; the 9th by ..... (1); the 10th by General Rapp; the 11th by Marshal Saint-Cyr.

ART. 15. Our Ministers are responsible, each in his respective capacity, for the execution of this decree.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Depot of War.

19699, - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL,
GRAND MARECHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 12, 1813,

I would like my crews, currently 72 wagons, to have only 10; and, instead of 500 horses and mules, I do not count to be of service but to see how this can be arranged.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19700. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 12, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I have established a rule for the number of wagons that the generals and corps must have. My intention is that no regiment should have a wagons called a box of papers or of a staff. The papers of the staff and the box will be carried on packhorses; each battalion will have two, one for the ambulance and one for the papers and the box; thus a regiment which will have four battalions in the army will have eight packhorses, which will give the means of transport a thousand heavy per regiment; this is enough to carry the papers and the cash register and some medicines.

The amount of lint, drugs and instruments should be regulated

1) Gap in the text. The 9th Corps, which was to consist of Bavarian troops, was not yet organized.[65]

that there should be, and install two small portable boxes. A small model of packs and two small wicker baskets should be adopted.

Do you agree with the Minister of War Administration to report to me on this?

It is necessary to prescribe that the name of the regiment and the number of the battalion and the pack horse should be written on the pack.

NAPOLEON,

According to the copy, Depot of War.

19701. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 12, 1813.

My Son, I sent Brigadier General Flahault, my aide-de-camp, to talk about the state of affairs, and to make you understand my projects and the direction I wanted you to give to your army corps, based on everything I told you in my different letters. When he has been with you for twenty-four hours, return it to me with all the details that will make known to me the state of things.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19702, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG

Trianon, March 12, 1813.

My son, I have nothing to add to the different letters I wrote to you these last days. General Lauriston informed me that they had already worked at the fortifications of Wittenberg; twenty pieces of cannon, which will be removed from Torgau, and 2,000 men of garrison will put this position safe from all insults. The bridgehead must be palisaded, either on one side or on the other side of the river; the head of the floods and the large number of small bridges on the right bank must also be palisaded. Simple drums, which will keep your guards safe from the Cossacks, will be sufficient. It is necessary to make rebuild the glasses of the redoubts, such as I had done them in the preceding campaign. A drum in palisades will protect from this side from insult the space between the city and the river.

The steward will have to take energetic measures to gather a large quantity of food in Magdeburg, by requiring the prefects of[66]

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all the departments, even demanding on the right bank, and writing to all the little princes of Saxony who are within reach. We will give vouchers for everything that will be delivered, and you will take steps to get it done.

We complain that we did not pay the campaign bonus I gave to the cavalry officers: have it paid without delay.

Generals Sebastiani and Latour-Maubourg must have arrived at their corps; they will remove all obstacles.

You must currently have at least 6,000 cavalry men. General Bourcier assures that by the end of March or at the beginning of April you will have 12,000 in Germany. I look forward to the detailed situation reports that I asked you for, because I am in the dark on everything.

I have nothing to add to what I have written to you today in figures relative to your left. I am sorry that General Lauriston, who has received my letter of the 2nd of March, has not summoned to you what I had written to him on your subsequent operations.

Make it clear to the King of Westphalia that in France, in Italy, countries which belong to me, one can not, under the great circumstances, act otherwise than by means of requisition. This is how shops are established around Mainz and Wesel. You know what we did in Italy in 1809, and yet this country is well organized, and the circumstances were less urgent. You must write in this direction to my minister, in order to furnish him with arguments and to deprive him of this vain subtlety. In Strasbourg and Mayence, horses, oxen, fodder, etc. were required, and departmental commissioners issued vouchers in exchange. This is how it must be done in the kingdom of Westphalia.

NAPOLEON.

PS I do not need to tell you that, if the enemy arrived in force in Dresden, perhaps General Reynier, who forms your right, could lean behind the Mulde, which is a river deep enough for to form a line and which has but few or no bridges; by this line, Leipzig and all Lower Saxony would be under cover of the incursions of the Cossacks.

According to the copy comm. by S. A, I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.[67]

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19703. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 23rd and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Trianon, March 12, 1813

Cousin, I receive your letter of March 8th. The Prince of Moskova will, I hope, return to Hanau from the 15th to the 16th. The 8th Division (Souham) must be at Aschaffenburg; I order that on the 20th she set out for Wurzburg, but for this purpose he must have his sixteen pieces of artillery, his brigade generals, and his six ambulance boxes. I told you that he should not have forty boxes, but only six. The 11th Division (Brenier) will meet on the 21st at Aschaffenburg, and the Prince of Moskova will conduct it on Wurzburg, as soon as it has its artillery and brigade generals. The 10th Division (Girard) and the Divided Division will meet at Aschaffenburg.

My intention, unless there are different events, is that, on the 1st of April, all the 1st Rhine Observation Corps be assembled at Wurzburg, and that at this time the Prince of Moskva should have his headquarters at Wurzburg. This prince has under his orders General Marchand, who will command the 38th and 39th (allied) divisions, as I have told you: the one composed of a Hessian brigade, a Baden brigade, and regiments of the Prince Primate. which will make seventeen battalions; the other formed of the Württemberg contingent.

General Wrede will command a Bavarian division (the 29th), composed of three brigades which meet in Baireuth, Bamberg and Kronach, and will be under the command of the Prince of Moskova. The corps under the command of this prince (3rd corps) will therefore be divided into seven divisions, which will occupy Wurzburg, Coburg, Meiningen and all the outlets of the Thuringian mountains.

The cavalry of this corps will be composed of: (1st) of the 10th regiment of hussars, of a Hessian regiment and of a Baden regiment, to be assembled in a brigade marching with General Souham; (2nd) the Württemberg cavalry, formed in two brigades; (3rd) of the Bavarian cavalry, formed into a brigade; in total, four brigades of cavalry or 5 to 6,000 horses. It is essential that a general of cavalry division be for this purpose at the headquarters of the Prince of the Moskva.

You may very well place a division of the 2nd Rhine Corps (6th Corps) in the States of Nassau, one in the States of Hesse-Darmstadt, one in Hanau, and the other in Aschaffenburg. These four[68]

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divisions will not arrive before April 1st. You can, therefore, direct all that concerns the 4th Division to the country of Nassau, to clear Mainz; the 3rd on Hesse-Darmstadt; and all that will happen successively from the 1st and 2nd, you can direct it first around Frankfurt, and, when Hanau will be evacuated, on Hanau. My intention is that the Duke of Ragusa should have his headquarters on the 20th at Mayence, and the 1st at Hanau.

All the Imperial Guard on foot and on horseback will be assembled in Frankfurt.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I send you for your instruction the decree I have just made, which regulates the formation of the Grand Army; you feel how secret it must be. Keep it for yourself alone; he will let you know the number of the divisions.

Write to my charge d'affaires at Weimar to instruct you by all the couriers of everything that happens on his side. Write the same thing to the commander of Erfurt.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

19704. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMONDING THE 5th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY TO MAGDEBURG.

Trianon. March 12, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I received your letter of the 7th. I do not understand how the campaign bonus was not paid to the cavalry officers. I can not imagine how you do not get their balance informed. Give positive orders and take steps to make this happen.

I see with difficulty that you have received my letter of the 2nd, and that, however, it has not struck you, since you have not written to the Viceroy. I indicated to you the point of operation which it was important to make known to him.

I see with pleasure that we have worked at Wittenberg; 2,000 men and twenty pieces of cannon in this place will put it perfectly safe. I have told you that it is important to direct all the artillery that is useless on Frankfurt, as well as all the personnel who are to serve the observation corps. The artillery of the Guard will have to take the same direction, since all the Guard meets in Frankfurt-on-the-Main.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

1) See Exhibit No. 19698.[69]

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19705. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BOURCIHER, COMMANDING THE CAVALRY DEPOSITS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HANNOVER.

Trianon. March 12, 1813.

I receive with surprise the letter in which you make known to me the destitution of the cavalry; it is your fault. You have the authority to pay the balance of the masses, and give horse back;; if all this is not done and is not better, it seems to me that you are not taking all the latitude I have given you. It's not about writing, you have to do it.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19706. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Trianon, March 12, 1813.

Brother, I can hardly see that you are wasting precious time in discussions. It is a pity that with the spirit you have, you will not see that Magdeburg can only be supplied by requisitions; that these are means that the state of war allows; that one has constantly used it thus since the world is world; that in Italy, in the campaign of 1809, that even for Wesel, Strasbourg and Mayence, the same expedient is used. The movements have been so rapid, that these supplies can not be supplied by markets; you have to have very little experience in administration to know that as long as the suppliers see such a huge competition, there can no longer be any limits to their prices. Moreover, these suppliers could not even, with the only means of commerce, satisfy the urgency of the needs; then it is necessary to have recourse to the requisitions, but it is through the intermediary of the administration, which distributes them as much as possible, and against vouchers which are liquidated in time and place. But what I do in Mainz itself, how do you expect me not to do it in Magdeburg? Instead of taking energetic measures, you are only annoying everything that is done. You believe, moreover, that there are billions available, whereas, if you only took the pen at the moment, you would see how many 300,000 men I have in Spain, how many all the troops I raise this year and the 100,000 horses that I equip at this moment cost me money.

If stores had been formed three months ago, we could have[70]

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have this supply made by markets. Today it must be done by requisitions; but these requisitions must take place by the orders of your ministers, by the prefects and by the local administrations; that a large quantity of oats, wheat, fodder, and cattle be gathered at Magdeburg. All this will be paid for by vouchers that will be liquidated sooner than we can. Here is the difference between Saxony and Westphalia: it is only when the vice-ruler asked for the formation of stores in Wittenberg, Torgau, etc., as soon as the orders are gone and the stores were formed. You are still arguing. What will be the result of this false behavior? It is because the military will make the requisitions themselves in the country, and it will be everywhere subjects of indiscipline and disorder. Do you believe that if the Russians come to Westphalia, they will pay your subjects cash? Even the smallest expenses, such as post office, they pay everywhere with vouchers.

Your country has the experience of war and knows what this state requires; you alone do not know it and do miracles of the simplest things. It is a shame that a place like Magdeburg, which is the key to your kingdom, is not yet supplied. All your reasoning is trivial and you do not know how to rise to the occasion. I currently have 100,000 men in Hanau, I will soon have 200,000 in this country; There are shops and there is no discussion. The Bavarians also make numerous stores for the passage of the observation corps of Italy; you are the only one who complains and does not take any action, because you are making misconceptions. It was in the course of January that I wrote to you for the supply of Magdeburg: a precious month was lost. The Viceroy groups an army of 100,000 men around Mandeburg; have the necessary requisitions made, and that there is a large influx of food in Magdeburg. All this will be momentary; but if you do not take measures, or the soldier will resort to military requisitions, or evacuate the country, which will become the prey of the Russians. So we can not make markets, because it is not in the nature of things to be able to make markets when 100,000 men have pressing needs; but we must make requisitions with as much order as possible and pay them with bills, which we will liquidate more or less quickly. There is no other party to take in circumstances as urgent as those in which we find ourselves. These well-distributed requisitions will not harm any part of[71]

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localities, will not crush any province and will face everything. Believe that there is not a Westphalian who does not know that since the world began, it can not be done otherwise. I am obliged to strengthen Magdeburg at my expense, to arm it at my expense, and to constantly fight against the Westphalian authorities for all measures which are intended only to ensure the defense of the city and the country. What good is your mind, since you see so badly? And why put your vanity in opposition to those who defend you, when it is especially to your kingdom that the enemy wants the most?

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I will come from the rest to your assistance for the expenses of the requisitions. According to the copy comm. Prince St. Jerome.

19707. - TO COUNT BIGOT DE PREAMENEU, MINISTER OF CULTES, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 13, 1813.

I send you the letter of the bishop of Nantes. You will let him know that the formula of the oath can not be changed; there must be something in this oath contrary to the mysteries of religion, for the government to change. All these pretensions of the Cardinals are ridiculous. You will say that if ever the Pope became temporal sovereign, we would break with him, We would not make a schism for that, but we would not want to suffer the influence of a sovereign whose political interests could be different from ours. Since the Pope only advises people like the di Pietro and the Litta, you will let him know that we will soon see the unpleasant consequences of the ineptitude of these people. The French bishops must speak firmly; as soon as we see them organized and ready to give the canonical institution, or name the bishops.

The oath of obedience to the Constitutions of the Empire and fidelity to the Emperor is one of the principal clauses of the Concordat concluded in Paris by Cardinal Consalvi. In time there was some opposition to admit this formula; but we declared that everything would be broken if we did not yield to it. Our government is not despotic, and obedience to the Emperor is by right, as[72]

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deriving from the general spirit of constitutions. How can the Pope raise doubts on a point which is one of the main clauses of the Concordat?

If it happened that the Pope was temporal ruler, and consequently the French faithful were prevented from communicating with him, he could excommunicate the French faithful; but today it is not the case; it is therefore to seek difficulties good for free.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19708. - TO GENERAL CLARI, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 13, 1813.

I read carefully your report of the 12th. It is unfortunate that 32,000 rifles were sent in 1812 to the King of Naples, and 12,000 to the Kingdom of Italy; I can not admit these shipments as a reason for diminution, since, having to be delivered only against cash, the minister had to increase the order of 1812, which you say was weak. You were wrong to send 12,000 French rifles to the Croats; it was possible to send 12,000 Austrians, provided they were in good condition. The 27,000 given to the princes of the Confederation were against cash, and the order must have been increased accordingly; we did not need funds for that. It was, moreover, quite simple to give them German or Prussian guns, provided they were good.

I do not agree that the treasury must pay the contractors in Paris; they are not to be pitied if they are paid in cash in their departments. I have no objection to granting 800,000 francs a month, but deducting the price of the guns supplied to Naples, Italy, and the Confederation,

I have no objection to exempting 400 conscripts of 1814; but it is impossible to exempt those of the four years.

Perhaps we could arm part of the conscripts of 1814 with foreign rifles, but of the same caliber, except to have in reserve at Mainz, Wesel and Strasburg, which are the points of our frontiers from which our troops leave for to enter Germany, the number of guns necessary, the French model, to arm the French who would come out.

All regiments have many guns at their depots; these rifles should be returned, and to this end the clauses of the[73]

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payments which are made to support the corps since the year XIII; that made me lose over 200,000 rifles,

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19709, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Trianon, March 13, 1813,

I approve that measures be taken to defend the Pyrenees and put the National Guard into operation. Write to the Commanding General in Catalonia, to the King, and to General Reille, to make them feel the false direction of Spanish affairs. and the need to protect the border.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19710. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 13, 1813,

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, the Minister of War has sent me a report, dated March 12th, which contains a fine work on all the cavalry. As a result, I asked for forty-six squadrons of cuirassiers or carabiniers for the Grand Army, to 200 men assembled by squadron, which makes 9,200 men; there will be, dirty and understand the conscripts of 1814, 13,642 men; so there will be 4,442 more men than we need. The horses which are or will be supplied in France and Germany for the return of these 9,200 men are 9,550; there will therefore remain about 4,000 cuirassiers who will not be mounted.

For the dragoons, I asked fifty-seven squadrons, to 200 men assembled by squadron, which makes 11,400 men: by the measures taken there will be, to supply these 11,400 men, 13,947 men, without counting the conscripts of 1814 ; there will be 2,547 more dragons than it is necessary. But of the 11,400 horses there are insured only 8,800; it will therefore lack 2,600 horses; which would be that there will be 5,117 more dragons than horses.

I asked twenty-five squadrons of light horse, 250 squadron men, making 6,250 men: according to the measures taken, there will be 8,739 men; There will be 2,489 more men. The number of horses insured is 7,520: thus it exceeds 1,270 the necessary number.[74]

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I asked forty-four squadrons of hussars, 250 men mounted by squadron, which rail 11,000 men: according to the measures taken, there will be 12,898 men; it's nearly 2,000 more than it takes. I asked eighty-three fighter squadrons, 250 squadron-mounted men; which makes 20,750 men; according to the measures taken, there will be 23,750 men; which makes 3,000 more men than we need,

Summary. I shall therefore have one hundred and three squadrons of heavy cavalry, making 20,600 horses, and one hundred and fifty-two squadrons of light cavalry, making 38,000 horses: total, two hundred and fifty-five squadrons, or 58,600 horses, to be supplied by eighty. eleven regiments; and in addition to this number, 4,400 cuirassiers, 5,117 dragoons, 2,4139 light horse, 2,000 hussars and 3,000 chasseurs, or about 17,000 men who will not be mounted, not counting the conscripts of 1814, which will rise to 13,000 men ; which would make all 30,000 men go up.

I would wish that, independently of the 2,700 horses still to be supplied in France on the markets which have been passed, you should deal for 7,600 cuirassiers, 7,500 dragoons, 3,900 light horse, 3,400 hussars and 7,000 chasseurs; total, 29,400, which will be needed to build up what will remain at the depots, after we have received the conscription of 1814. This amount of 29,400 probably will not be able to be supplied in the year, but it would have been necessary to have more than 15,000 in the months of May, June, July and August, and the other 14,000 would be provided only after the month of September.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19711. - TO COUNT DABU, MINISTER SECRETARY OF STATE, GENERAL INTENT OF THE PRIVATE DOMAIN, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 13, 1813.

Count Daru, the King of Westphalia complains that his people are crushed with burdens. I would not be far from concluding with the King a bargain in which it would be said that he would supply all the needs of the army which would be on his territory; that the number of men and horses which he owes is to be deduced; that, for the rest, I would pay him the bushel of oats and the hay, so that the ration would not exceed sixteen sous; I would also pay him the hospital day at the rate of 16 sous, and the ration of bread[75]

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in the best possible market, as well as meat and brandy, etc. Make me a project on it.

I would also like you to see Monsieur de la Bouillerie to find out what the King was to repay in 1812, what he repaid, and what happens in 1813, distinguishing between capital and interest.

NAPOLEON,

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

19712, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG,

Trianon. March 13, 1813.

My son, I receive even a letter of March 8, by which I see with difficulty that Marshal Saint-Cyr is ill. General Flahault, my aide-de-camp, left yesterday. I suppose he will have arrived, or near, when you receive this letter. I have nothing to add to what I have told you in my previous letters. I wish to have a report of what happened on the 4th of the Italian chasseurs and the Lithuanian regiment, written by the colonel or the officers who escaped the affair; you will add your observations, so that I am in a position to know what has happened; for even today, when you told me that almost everything had been lost, I have no precise idea of these matters.

Let me know the composition of all the garrisons. A letter of the 27th of February from Stettin announces that the consumption of this place is 10,000 rations a day: I would have preferred it to be only 7,000.

You can give the command of the Polish division to General Lapoype, which you will place at Wittenberg, and you will place it, as well as the divisions of the 2nd Corps, under the orders of the Duke of Bellune, who will have his headquarters at Dessau, and keep the whole left bank of the Elbe, from Wittenberg to Magdeburg. You will advise him not to be cut off from Magdeburg. The garrison of Torgau must keep half of his world out of the city, on the left bank, for defend the passage of the river between Torgau and Wittenberg. It takes a bit of art to get closer to Magdeburg. First, it is necessary that General Lauriston should select the camp, admit his four divisions, build the redoubts and place his artillery there, and then the three divisions of the 11th corps arrive there successively, being relieved in their positions by the troops of the Duke of Bellune.[76]

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If General Reynier were obliged to evacuate Dresden, he will have to approach you and take a line which prevents the Cossacks from coming to Leipzig, defending the Mulde or any other line; but what I consider most important of all is the Elba hash.

Work with the greatest activity at Armament and Supply of Wittenberg; shoot Torgau's cannons; put in it, independently of the Poles, a good artillery officer and a French engineer, and bring from Torgau a Saxon battalion and two Saxon artillery companies.

You will evacuate to Erfurt all the sick people who are in Leipzig.

Do not leave anything to Leipzig. I learn that there are depots of the Guard in Leipzig: I do not know what they do there; point them to Frankfurt. It is possible that I do not go to Leipzig myself; it will depend on the circumstances.

Finally, since your movement on Wittenberg has attracted the enemy, execute your movement on Magdeburg, with the art necessary for the enemy to follow you there, and that he may fear that one wishes to take the offensive by Magdeburg before he knows that you have lost yourself before Wittenberg; this in the supposition that the enemy infantry would be before you; for all the news that we have of London, Copenhagen, Vienna, agrees that the hostile army suffers, that it is weakened by diseases, that it has 40,000 men before Danzig, 12,000 before Thorn and a lot of troops against the Austrians.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19713. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 13, 1813.

My son, the King of Westphalia, tells me, under the date of the 9th, that he is not yet in a condition to send any corps on the side of Havelberg to support the left, because he has nothing yet form; but at the end of this month he will have four battalions and twelve pieces of cannon. His guard is in good condition. I told him that as soon as you were in front of Magdeburg, he would come two or three days away from you, to be there to strengthen you, if you need it, or to go to the right or to the right. left on the wings, if the enemy threatened a passage. So he will form a[77]

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a kind of reserve which may be very useful to you. Confer with him where he should be.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19714. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 13, 1813.

It is necessary that you arrived from the 15th to the 17th at Hanau. You will see your passage in Mainz and Frankfurt the divisions of your corps, and you will report to me their situation, the colonels and majors that would be lacking, as well as the battalion commanders. The Duke de Valmy will inform you of all the officers who have arrived or must arrive to replace the officers who are bad or too old.

Your corps takes the title of 3rd Corps of the Grand Army: your 1st division takes the number 8, the 2nd the number 9, the 3rd the number 10, and the 4th the number 11.

I have also placed under your command the 39th and 38th divisions, commanded by General Marchand. The 39th Division is composed of the Hesse-Darmstadt Brigade, the Baden Brigade, and the Prince Primate Regiment. Division 38 is composed of the Württemberg contingent. General Marchand is to go to Würzburg to assemble the division. The Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt has already sent two battalions to Wurzburg. Two battalions from Baden left, as well as two Wurtemberger battalions. You will also have the Bavarian division commanded by General de Wrede; it has fifteen battalions and meets at Baireuth and Bamberg. Your army corps will consist of seven divisions.

ARTILLERY. Your artillery will be composed of ninety-two guns attached to your four French divisions, and about sixty guns attached to the three allied divisions; which will make a hundred and fifty guns, with a simple supply. You will only have this simple supply at first, but in the course of April the second supply will join you.

CAVALRY. I ordered the Duke of Padua to take command of the cavalry of your corps. The Minister of War will send you two good cavalry generals. The 10th Hussars, 400 men strong, is already at Aschaffeuburg; but there are at Metz nearly a thousand men; do you report back to[78]

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your passage, and set in motion all that he will have available; the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt provides you with a regiment of 600 horses; Baden, a regiment of 600 horses; that will make a brigade of 2,500 horses. The king of Wurtemberg provides six regiments, which will make 2,400 horses; this will make your 2nd brigade. Finally Bavaria provides 2,000 horses, which will form a 3rd brigade. So that in the month of April you will have more than 6,000 horses. The 600 horses from Hesse-Darmstadt are not yet available, but there are 300 ready to go. The 600 horses in Baden have already left. So, in the first moment, you will only have 1,000 to 2,000 horses. Order them to be exercised and not compromised in any way.

MILITARY CREWS. A company of the 6th battalion of the military equipments, having forty wagons, is already returned to your corps. Of these forty caissons, thirty are loaded with ambulance effects, and form five ambulances, each of six boxes, enough to cover the first bandage of 10,000 wounded. You will attach one of these ambulances, or six caissons, to each of your divisions, and the fifth to your headquarters. This will provide enough to supply the first dressing to 50,000 wounded. The 2nd company of this battalion is completing its formation and will join you in April.

ENGINEERING. You will find arrived at your corps a battalion of Spanish sappers; you will attach one company to each division.

Your corps will be part of the Army of the Main, which I will command in person. General Pernety, who is second in command of the artillery of the Grand Army under the orders of General Sorbier, who remains with the army of the Elbe, will command the artillery of the Army of the Main. General Pellegrin will be the Director General of the Army Park of the Main, and will be Deputy Director General of the Parks of the Grand Army, under the orders of General Neigre, Director General, who will remain in the Army of the Elbe .

As soon as your 1st Division, commanded by General Souham, has its brigadier generals, colonels, artillery, and surgeons, you will direct it to Wurzburg, after having established bridges over the Main. You will have these bridges guarded by palisades that will serve as a guardhouse. I ordered that the citadel of Würzburg be armed; take every measure to ensure that it is promptly executed, that the artillery is put into battery and that the place is supplied for two months. I also ordered that the small citadel of Koenigshofen be put in elite and[79]

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armed with some guns. Kronach is also put in state; the King of Bavaria has already given the necessary orders. As soon as your 2nd Division has its generals, colonels, artillery, and surgeons, you will also conduct it on Wurzburg; likewise for the 3rd, likewise for the 4th.

On the 1st of April you will take your headquarters to Würzburg, to give place to the Guard and the 2nd Observation Corps of the Rhine, which will take the title of 6th Corps of the Grand Army. The observation corps of Italy will take the 4th Corps of the Grand Army. It opens at this moment in the Tyrol; he will arrive from the 10th to the 15th on the Main, and his headquarters will be at Nuremberg.

Sixty pieces of my Guard's gun, 3,000 horses, and 12,000 infantrymen meet in Frankfurt. The 3rd Cavalry Corps meets at Metz.

Arrive in Würzburg, you will occupy the states of Saxe-Coburg, Saxony-Meiningen and other small princes of Saxony. You will draw food from everywhere, and you will always take care of having ten days of biscuit. As soon as the citadel of Würzburg is ready, you will bring from Mainz a million cartridges and ten thousand guns. You will order the King of Bavaria to push on Kronach also a million cartridges and ten thousand shots. The marching battalion of the observation corps of Italy, which was formed at Mainz and set out on Bamberg, has been ordered to return to Wurzburg; it will be a fund for the garrison of this city. As soon as General Marchand has arrived at Wurzburg and has assembled the division of Darmstadt and Baden, you will push it on Schweinfurt and Kronach. As soon as the Wurtemburgers have arrived, you will also place them forward, and you will concentrate the four divisions of your body at Wurzburg and one day's march from this town, taking care to canton them in the villages by whole battalion, so that your troops are constantly exercising.

There must be enough in your corps to name all the vacancies. Present me captains for the places of battalion chiefs, lieutenants for the places of captains and second lieutenants for lieutenants, but do not present me for the second lieutenants: there are enough second lieutenants leaving the school of Saint-Cyr to fill all vacant places. Cohort regiments must have their colonels and majors. The colonel will command the 1st battalion and the 2nd battalion, and the major will command the 3rd and[80]

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the 4th. Let me know which regiments have no eagles; they will be prepared, and I will give them myself, as well as to the 22nd regiment of the line, which has lost hers in Spain. The colonel and the major of the 22nd of line must also be in the regiment.

Do a lot of exercise on fire and shoot the target. You will also do a lot of maneuvering and bombardments and deployments, and the square battalion, that the battalion leaders must know how to do so quickly to be safe from a cavalry charge.

You will see the rules I took on the baggage; hold your hand to his execution. I do not grant caissons to the regiments for their papers; I give them, in place, peloton horses. The fewer wagons there are, the better; our army needs to be fleet.

Your authorizing officer will make all the necessary requisitions to fill your stores; he will pay everything with well-ordered bonds, which will then be liquidated.

Each provisional regiment must be commanded by a second colonel, a major, or a second-in-command. Go through all your corps, as I pass them by myself, and let me know the result of these reviews. Be sure to include in your proposals the statements of service of the different officers, so that I can make the appointments without sending them back to the Ministry of War.

The 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, which becomes the 6th Corps of the Grand Army, will be at Hanau on the 1st of April, and probably at the same time I will have my headquarters in Frankfurt. Stettin, Küstrin and Glogau have garrisons. The Viceroy was on the 7th at Wittenberg, having evacuated Berlin and left a good garrison at Spandau. Wittenberg is in a state of defense. Torgau has a good Saxon garrison. General Reynier was still at Dresden, General Lauriston is at Magdeburg. I ordered the viceroy to take a camp a league ahead of Magdeburg, to strengthen the wings with redoubts, to have his troops barred, and to assemble the four divisions of the corps of observation of the Elbe, now the 5th Corps of the Grand Army, the three divisions of the 11th Corps and the division of the Guard; which will make him eight divisions. The Prince of Eckmühl, with a division of the 1st corps, is on the Elbe, half way between Hamburg and Magdeburg. The Duke of Bellune, with a division of the 2nd corps, is on the left, having his headquarters at Dessau.

There is at Wittenberg a garrison of 3,000 men. If General Reynier were forced to evacuate Dresden, he would retreat behind the[81]

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Mulde to cover Leipzig, and would approach the right of the Viceroy. Should the viceroy be obliged to leave Magdeburg, he would leave General Haxo as governor and the two divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps for garrison, and retire to Cassel and Hanover; but I do not think that this hypothesis can be realized. Erfurt there 2,000 men of garrison; the citadel is armed and supplied; I ordered to build drums at the gates of the city to put it safe from the Cossacks.

Your first goal must be to train your troops, prepare your stores and gather food; then to crown the mountains of Thuringia and to prevent the enemy, if he were in force at Dresden, from coming to Leipzig and Erfurt to reach the Viceroy's right, which he could not do without leaving half of his army to hide you. In general, I want the French divisions to be concentrated in the plain around Würzburg, and the positions in the mountains to be occupied by the Allied troops.

I asked for a reserve of 10,000 quintals of flour in Würzburg. It would be good to have line handling of about twenty furnaces; I do not know whether the one I had established in the campaign of 1806 was demolished.

My intention is to take the offensive vigorously in the month of May, to resume Dresden, to clear the places of the Oder, and, according to the circumstances, to free Danzig and to reject the enemy behind the Vistula. The Austrian corps and the Polish corps of Prince Poniatowski are behind the Pilica. The Poles are reorganizing themselves behind the Austrians, and they are already numbering 15,000 men.

Inform me in detail of the situation of your corps, and make me present to all the magazines that you will pass.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19715. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

I gave orders for the arming of Wesel, Kastel and Kebl.

It would not hurt to have a half-armament at Grave, Venlo, and Juliers; this armament would not be ordered for the advanced works, but only on the magisterial line. Have a project done for a half- armament of Mainz, for the enclosure only, and not for the external works. All points of[82]

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the enclosure must be well seen, well beaten by the grape and protected from a coup de main. Make me also such a project for Strasbourg and Metz.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19716. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 14, 1813.

Cousin, I send you the relation of General Monthion. I also send you the situation report of the Oder and Vistula places. Ask General Monthion for more precise information on these garrisons, especially the number of the artillery companies. Make known to this general that I have not yet the situation of the corps; that it is indispensable that he send it to you without delay; that he make known the generals, aides-de-camp, assistant adjutants-general, who are in the 11th corps and other divisions with the viceroy; that he sends the same information on the four divisions of the Elbe observation corps, on the corps of General Reynier, on all that is in the deposits in the rear, on the 1st and 2nd corps cavalry, the Guard, the Lithuanian cavalry, & c. It is also necessary that he send the details of the artillery equipment attached to each division, the indication of the sappers who are there, and so on. I am in the dark of all this. Tell him that I order him iteratively to write to you every day a relation of what is happening, distinguishing what is official from what is indirect notion. Ask him about a business relationship that took place on the side of Posen, where Prince Giedroyc was taken. Tell him that I am sorry for the Italian regiment; that it would not have happened if the cavalry had marched together and if an infantry regiment had been joined to it, which the cautious and prudent manner of the Cossacks necessarily indicated. Let General Lauriston, Maadeburg, know that you have resumed your duties, that it is essential that he write to you, often, that he sends you his statements of situation, etc. Write the same thing to General Reynier, to General Sorbier; to the commander of the engineers, to the commanders of the places of Torgau, Wittenberg, Leipzig, Erfurt. Establish a staff office in Mainz; put at the head General Guilleminot, who must be on this side. You will attach to this staff your commanding officers Galbois and Fontenille; give them orders to go to Mainz. General Monthion will continue[83]

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to remain with the viceroy, to disorganize nothing. General Pernety, second in command of the artillery, and General Pellegrin, second in command of the park, will hold at Mainz to direct the artillery of the Army of the Main. Write to Wesel; in Lemarois, in Düsseldorf; to the various commanders of the 32nd Military Division, so that they can correspond with you.

Choose two mails to replace the ones you lost in the last campaign. Complete your aides-de-camp; take young people capable of something; choose them especially from the officers who made the last campaign or who come back from Spain; finally begin to gather your offices. Work little; I will continue to correspond provisionally with the viceroy, with General Lauriston and with the Duke de Valmy, but these arrangements will organize your offices and prepare the service.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19717. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Trianon, March 14, 1813,

My Son, I receive your letter from Leipzig from the evening of March 9th. You do not tell me whether General Lauriston has made you aware of the direction I was indicating. For the rest, you will have received the 10th of my letter of the 5th, which will have informed you of my intentions. General Flahault will arrive, I believe, tomorrow.

As soon as you have news of General Morand in Pomerania, inform me of it, even noises that would happen to you on this side. By our last news, it does not seem decided yet that Prussia wants to go on campaign against us. However, since the betrayal of General York, and by the physiognomy which things have taken since, the cabinet of Berlin did not seem to have to remain for a long time our ally; but I do not think they have as many troops as General Reynier believes. Do not forget that Prussia has only 4 million people. In the most prosperous times, Prussia had no more than 150,000 men, which it did not fail to exaggerate and increase to 300,000. In spite of all the king's efforts, he will certainly not have 10,000 men in the month of May, out of whom at most 25,000 will be available, because of the necessity of keeping Silesia, the forts of Graudenz, Kolberg , Pillau, and have troops for the country's police.[84]

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After the battle of Iena, in the winter campaign that followed, some efforts made by the Prussians, they could never achieve more than 10,000 men. There are many sick people in General York's corps.

All the teachings that come from the Russian army also announce that he has many sick. Whatever one may say, a large army corps is in front of Danzig. It is true that they did not enter Warsaw, that they make the service by the National Guards and that they have not established any communication between the city and their army. Is it to hide their situation and to prevent many men from getting into the city to escape from the cold?

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19718. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAUIUSTON, COMMANDING THE 5th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, .A MAGDEBURG.

Trianon, March 14, 1813.

Count Lauriston, I receive your letter of March 10th. I suppose that the viceroy is currently aware of my intentions and has taken all the measures to comply with them. I am far from approving your project. My intention, on the contrary, is, that you ridicule your four divisions a league ahead of Magdeburg; that you cover yourself with a few glasses and announce on all sides that you are leaving to resume the offensive; let all your cuirassiers be grouped behind you, in places where they can live and reorganize themselves! I hope that the Viceroy himself will be returned to Magdeburg. that he will assemble his three divisions, and guard him to your four divisions; which will make him a camp of eight divisions, having the two corps of cavalry behind, the Prince of Eckmühl on your left, the Duke de Bellune on the right, General Reynier on Dresden, or on the Mulde, or finally on the Harz, always covering the right, and the king of Westphalia approaching behind you with his guard and what he will have available troops. Send requisitions fifteen or twenty leagues round you, on the side of Prussia and even Hamburg, to forage and supply you. You alarmed Hamburg; reassure him.

Gourgaud writes to you for your artillery. On the 30th of March your ninety-two pieces, with a supply and a half, will be collected at Magdeburg. The Viceroy can not have less than a hundred.[85]

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There is some stuff to organize again in Magdeburg, especially if the enemy came to put himself in force before you and you could fear attack: in a position as close a supply is sufficient; all your means of carriage could be united to have a hundred more pieces, and then you would have three hundred guns. On the other hand, the 1st corps of observation of the Rhine crowns at this moment the mountains of Thuringia; the 2nd corps arrives at Mainz. The Guard already has great strength in Frankfurt. The observation corps of Italy arrives on Augsburg. Two divisions composed of the 4th battalions of the twenty-eight regiments of the 1st and 2nd corps of the Grand Army arrive at that moment on Wesel; they will place themselves in Bremen and Hamburg, and restore order in that military division.

Write to General Carra Saint-Cyr to show more firmness. There are many shoes and equipment effects in Hamburg; if your regiments are lacking, you can have them taken by keeping an accounting in good standing in this respect and selling them to your corps, who will pay them with what is allotted to them for gratuity. Get all the harnessing effects together, and give the cavalry all they need.

The complement of your second supply and that of the 11th corps meets at Wesel. I am anxious to know your troops united and in army corps, having a formidable and offensive position.

Napoleon.

From the original comm. by the Marquis de Lauriston.

19719 - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Trianon. March 14, 1813.

Brother, I receive your letter of March 10th. Since you can not go to Wittenberg, Prince Eckmühl will go with sixteen battalions and three artillery batteries; Sixteen other battalions arrive by Wesel, which will make him two beautiful divisions. General Lauriston will place his four divisions ahead of Magdeburg; the Viceroy will join his three divisions and the Guard; the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Corps will meet there. The Duke of Bellune, with twelve battalions of the 2nd corps, will keep the right between Magdeburg and Wittenberg. The Saxons will keep Torgau, and as soon as General Reynier is obliged to evacuate Dresden, he will retreat to the Mulde, and then, if necessary, to the mountains of the Harz, to cover Cassel. As soon as these arrangements are begun,[86]

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I wish that you may arrive with your guard, the four battalions which you announce to me have available, sixteen to twenty-four pieces of cannon and allying of cavalry that you will be able, three days back of the Elbe, so to be able in two great marches to arrive on Magdeburg and to attend the battle, if the viceroy was to be attack in front of this place. In this position, you will form a reserve ready to go On the left, if the enemy overflowed on this side, or on the right, if the enemy passed Dessau or pressed too close General Reynier, finally on all points of your kingdom whose tranquility would be troubled. I have reason to think that the Duke of Oels is already in your States.

Twenty-eight battalions of the sixteen regiments of the 1st corps and the twelve of the 2nd (the 4th) meet at Wesel and move to Minden, Osnabrück and Bremen. They will also occupy Hamburg, restore tranquility in this division, and will be ready to go wherever it is necessary and especially against a landing.

My minister will tell you about your situation. I do not refuse to give you a few millions which may be necessary to you; but first of all you have to be in a simple and clear position. As soon as I know that you have seated the necessary requisitions to supply Magdeburg and feed the Viceroy's army, and that I shall have no further anxiety on this side, I will not refuse to replace the pearl you make. on your land tax and to give you a hard time. But your wrong way of thinking about all these issues has prevented us from taking any action so far. Count Daru told me he was going to write a long story about it to your minister. The Duke of Bassano must also have written to him.

Moreover, the corps of the Prince of Moskova crowns the mountains of Thuringia; everything is moving. The 2nd Rhine Observation Corps arrives at Mainz, and I will probably be there myself soon. It's still a bad month to pass; but then the enemy will disappear like smoke.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19720. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Trianon, March 15, 1813.

I find it singular that Count Monthion subscribes to the letters he writes to you from this formula: "I have the honor to be, with the most[87]

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high consideration, etc. You should write to the Prince of Neuchâtel: it seems to me that this is not the protocol a general must employ when he writes to my minister.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19721. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG

Trianon, March 15, 1813.

My Son, as you have not sent me, reports of the situation of your corps, that I have no state of that of General Beynier, that I do not know the situation of your artillery, and another of these corps, that I do not even know where General Beynier is, that I do not know whether he covers Dresden and not even if the enemy infantry has passed the Oder, you feel that it is very difficult for me to give orders and order my army. I can not understand what prevents your chief of staff from sending all the states to the Prince of Neuchatel, and why you do not make known to me all that you know.

I answer your letter of the 10th. My letters from the 5th to the 10th, and the arrival of my aide Flahault, will have informed you of my intentions. By your provisions of the 10th, you perfectly place your troops to prevent the Cossacks and the enemy light troops from crossing the river. You place your known army a rear-guard, or as one would place a vanguard; but there are no real dispositions. In fact, you do not make known what the Prince of Eckmühl, the Duke de Bellune, and your general officers will do if the enemy crosses the Elbe.

It is necessary to put in principle that the enemy will pass the Elect where and known he will. Never has a river been considered as an obstacle which delayed more than a few days, and the passage can be defended only by placing troops in force in the heads of bridge on the other bank, ready to resume the offensive as soon as the enemy begins his passage. But, wanting to confine themselves to the defensive, there is no other course to take than to dispose his troops so as to be able to reunite them en masse and fall upon the enemy before his passage is completed; but it is necessary that the localities permit it and that all the dispositions be leaked in advance. If the enemy corps on the right, which may be 25,000 men, and which will, of course, pass for 50,000, went on Havelberg and wished to cross the Elbe between Magdeburg and Hamburg, what would you do? The enemy[88]

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would have passed and would already be on Hanover before you had made any move. If 40 or 50,000 men were marching on Dresden, would they fight in the city to defend the bridge? And if the enemy crossed the Elbe on the side of Pilnitz, where it is so easy, the river being so narrow, what would Prince Eckmühl do? Finally, if the enemy crossed the Elbe between Magdeburg and Wittenberg, which he dared to do if he did not see offensive masses anywhere, what would become of all the columns of the army, cut by the light troops, having on their rear, and never being able to rally? Nothing is more dangerous than trying to seriously defend a river bordering the opposite shore; for once the enemy has surprised the passage, and he always surprises him, he finds the army on a very extensive defensive order, and prevents him from rallying. All these inconveniences are still much greater in the present situation of things, when the enemy has so much cavalry and so much of these movements. I can not but bring back to him my last letters.

Place the Prince of Eckmühl, with his sixteen battalions, on your left; he will be very good. He knows Hamburg and is known there, and his proximity to that city will be very useful. These sixteen battalions must observe the extremity by posts and never be cut off from Magdeburg. If there were on the right bank, opposite Werben and Havelberg, a post which could be put under the shelter of a hand, to serve as a bridgehead, covering a bridge or at least a back and forth, it would be a very good thing. Place before Magdeburg the four divisions of General Lauriston, the three divisions of the 11th Corps, the Division of the Guard, the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Corps. You will thus gather 600,000 infantry, two hundred and fifty pieces of cannon, and soon 10 or 12,000 cavalry men. Cover your camp with a few glasses, have your troops barred. Send forward 1,500 horses and an infantry division every day in the different directions. Place the Duke of Bellune on the right of Magdeburg; give him the command of Wittenberg. Place General Dombrowski in this town with a Saxon battalion, a Saxon artillery company, a French artillery company, an artillery officer, and a French engineer officer. If it did not compose 2,000 men, the Duke de Belluno would furnish one or two of his twelve battalions to complete this number. We will put in Wittenberg thirty guns, pieces of 12, of 6, howitzers and small mortars, and a supply for this garrison for two months, and we will work constantly to put the fort up,[89]

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The Duke of Bellune will be held on the coast of Dessau; he will take care of the defense of the Elbe between Magdeburg and Wittenberg, and will command also between Wittenberg and Torgau, General Reynier will command along the Elbe, from Torgau to Bohemia. For this purpose, a Saxon general, with two-thirds of the garrison of Torgau, will guard the left bank of the river, while the other third will remain in his place, General Reynier will have the Meissen Bridge cut and will remain as far as possible at Dresden. The commander of Koenistein will keep the Elbe above Dresden and have all the boats which will be placed under the cannon of Koenigstein and Torgau.

In this situation of things, even position in the camp in front of Magdeburg will restore the morale of your troops. If the enemy marched on Havelberg, he could not do it without having 80,000 men to hide you. If the enemy seriously wishes to march on Dresden, and Reynier can not stop him, this general will throw himself behind the Mulde and defend this line against the enemy's light troops; finally it will always be formed on right. In this situation, a movement of Magdeburg on Brandenburg and Berlin would frighten the enemy and force him to recall the mass of his forces on the right bank of the Elbe, by taking an offensive position and showing the existence of the great quantity of troops at Magdeburg, the enemy will be restrained, and will be unable to do anything reasonable, without opposing an army of 100,000 men to yours, and, seeing himself on the eve of a battle, he will keep himself good to make detachments that would weaken it.

I know the big question is Dresden, but it's a question you can not avoid. The arrangements you have made do not defend this city, for if the enemy seriously wishes to march on Dresden, what will the 31st division do and six more battalions that you give to the Prince of Erkmuhl? It's just like nothing. You do not defend Dresden, and you expose yourself to a check by compromising this corps if the enemy marches there in force. If it does not enter into the plans of the enemy to be in force on Dresden, General Reynier with the Saxon corps, which had to strengthen, and which I suppose to have been complete to 12,000 men, is quite sufficient to defend it. The retreat of General Reynier of Dresden would not be an affront to us, nor a news for Europe: it would be only after his first retirement. That of Prince Eckmühl would be a real affront: it would show that we wanted to defend Dresden and that we were not able to, To defend Dresden, you would have to go with[90]

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all your forces and do what I told you for Magdeburg; but then Westphalia, Hanover, and the 32nd military division would be out of the open: these are the most important points, and I would prefer to see the enemy at Leipzig, Erfurt, and Gotha, rather than Hannover and Bremen. It is unfortunate that the 1st and 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine, and that the observation corps of Italy are not yet in a condition to reach Dresden, I will have them done as soon as they will be able to; but I do not wish to compromise the whole destiny of the next campaign by sending forward corps whose artillery is not complete and having little cavalry: it will be exposed to an affront.

The king of Westphalia, with eight battalions, which, with the troops and the batteries which he will have organized by that time, will make on the 1st of April 10,000 men and thirty pieces of cannon, will be carried two or three days behind. Magdeburg, to be within reach of your left flank or your right flank, if the enemy wanted to fight you. I suppose that once your army corps assembled in the camp in front of Magdeburg, having 80,000 men of infantry, counting the corps of your flanks, you will not let yourself be shut up by the Cossacks and some infantry battalions . As soon as you have removed this infantry and show the intention of destroying all enemy detachments within your reach, all this will dissipate like smoke. As soon as a good time, at the break of day, you have brought out of your camp, on several columns, 6,000 men of cavalry supported by the necessary infantry, and that you will have tumbled the Cossacks, removed their artillery and the little the infantry they have with them, you will see them no more than five by five, show them on their best horses, to enlighten what you do. It is urgent that such an operation be made to make known the change of things, which will stop the movement of the enemy; and if he has surrounded Spundau, or if he has a corps in Berlin, these troops would be much compromised. By taking the offensive, you will have taken Berlin back, because we will not see there soon the Russian garrison worried alarmed and alarmed, and that big cloud that is forming in Magdeburg, that the spirits will change. There is also too much communication with Frankfurt so that we do not know also who is formed there.

Summed up, if the enemy wants to march on Dresden with his army, and at the same time march to another corps on Hanover, it is evident that you can not think of defending Dresden.

Obliged to opt between the defense of the lower Elbe and that of the top, I[91]

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wants to defend the bottom. 10 to 12,000 men to General Reynier suffice to defend Dresden, if the enemy does not want to come in force to not spread too much and not to compromise. The formation of the Magdeburg camp is even the best means of defending Dresden, by depriving the enemy of the desire to go there, since, as I have already observed, he may fear that no one will wish to carry Magdeburg against Stettin, and this is the only way to reorganize the army. if had been suitable to defend Dresden, it would have been necessary to group around; but we would have had neither stores nor ammunition, nor any of the resources that a stronghold gives us. If Wittenberg were a place like Magdeburg, you could have carried it there as I said for Magdeburg, and that would have been even more advantageous, since Wittenberg is closer to Berlin, Dresden, and even the line of operation. the enemy army which would be on Hanover; but an army encamped at Wittenberg may be afraid of being turned round, but if it is encamped at Magdeburg it has nothing to fear. He could, if necessary, shut himself in and can maneuver on both shores.

Finally, if, what I do not think can happen, the enemy being very far from having as many troops available as you, because of what he was obliged to leave before the Austrians, before Danzig, Thorn, Modlin and the places of the Oder, the large number of his sick and his losses in the steps, if, I say, the army was to leave Magdeburg, it should be to protect Westphalia, the 32nd military division and Holland .

The evacuation line of your sick, the posts of the army and of the couriers, the movements of the artillery depots, etc., must pass through Wesel; so I have ordered that the second supply of artillery for your corps meets at Wesel. Order that routes evacuations of sick and all the communications of the administration with France take place by Wesel,

If what I order for the Elbe was done on the Oder, and instead of retreating to Frankfurt you had grouped yourself in front of Küstrin, the enemy would have looked twice before throwing anything on the Left Bank. You would have at least gained twenty days and give the Elbe observation corps time to occupy Berlin.

When the season is more advanced, it will be possible that even before starting my operations even army will be in an advanced position on Spandau. For the rest, I have told you all this so many times in my letters, I have said so much to General Fluhault, that I will only add that, if the enemy, as I believe it,[92]

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is not in force between the Oder and the Elbe, I attach great importance to you fortifying a point vis-à-vis Havelberg, which dominates the canal and ensures the passage of the river.

The Austrians have a corps of observation in Bohemia; and if the Russians advanced beyond Dresden, they would be obliged to leave a corps to observe the outlets of Bohemia.

As for the difficulty of living, you have before you the most beautiful provinces of Prussia, from which you can fire, following the principles of military execution, that is to say by designating to each village, even to ten leagues distant, the quantities which he must furnish to your camp, and, in the event of a village not executing your order, send a detachment to put it to use, and burn some houses if necessary.

On the left bank you have the provinces of Magdeburg, Halberstadt, etc., which are the most beautiful provinces of this part of Germany.

It would not be impossible that, on the 1st of April, I ordered 60,000 men to go to Leipzig, to serve as a reserve for the defense of Dresden: so you can inform General Reynier that, on the 1st of April, I shall send 60,000 men, with two hundred pieces of cannon, to rank behind him. The two armies being thus formed, and the Elbe well guarded, we shall be masters of choosing the proper moment for the offensive; but that can not be before the 1st of April, since this corps can not leave Würzburg until April 1st. You will receive this letter on the 18th or the 19th; it will then be twelve days for General Reynier to win.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19722. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Triauon, March 16, 1813,

I have made known to you the placement I intended to give to the various divisions composed of provisional demi-brigades and conscripts of 1814, to defend the coasts and frontiers of France against any aggression. One of the most effective measures for the defense of France is to have friends at hand to arm the crews of the navy, the maritime workers, and finally the inhabitants.

1st The cadets of Scheldt would supply 10,000 infantrymen;[93]

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the workers of the Antwerp arsenal can not be assessed to less than 3,000 men; the national guards to be trained at Antwerp can not be estimated at least, so it would be necessary to have 16,000 rifles in reserve in the citadel of Antwerp.

It is impossible to calculate to less than 3,000 men the number that the crews of the gunboats, the workmen, and the national guards would bring to Flushing; it would be, therefore, 3,000 rifles that would have to be in Flushing; it would be necessary to have 1,000 guns for the national guards of Ostend, 3,000 for the national guards of Dunkerque, 2,000 for those of Calais, 2,000 for those of Boulogne, 2,000 for those of Abbeville and 1,000 for those of Montreuil; total, 14,000. It would be necessary moreover for the departments of the North, in Lille and other surrounding places, 15,000 rifles, in order to arm the national guards that would be formed without delay in a moment of attack.

Thus, for this portion of the coast from Holland to the Somme, it would take 45,000 rifles.

2nd It would be necessary for Le Havre to have 2,000 rifles, both for the National Guards and for the men of the Navy; it would take 4,000 at Cherhourg, for the National Guards and for the Navy; in addition, it might be possible to assemble 10,000,000 Cherbourg, which would be necessary for the national guards of the neighboring departments; they could be drawn from Paris if necessary.

3rd. It should not be less than 10,000 rifles in Brest, both to arm the men of the arsenals as well as the crews and the national guards; in addition, 2,000 were needed at Saint-Malo and 2,000 at Lorient; it would take more than 6,000 in reserve at Rennes to arm the National Guards of Brittany; in all, it would take 20,000 for Brittany.

4th. It would take 2,000 to La Rochelle, 2,000 to Ile de Re, 2,000 to Oleron and 4,000 to Rochefort; which would make 10,000 for the coasts of the mouth of the Charente.

5th 4,000 rifles at Blaye would suffice for the coast of Bordeaux, and finally 6,000 would be sufficient at Bayonne; total, 10,000 for the coast of Gascony.

6th A reserve should be in Paris for either Cherbourg, Le Havre, Anvtl's, or even the land year. This reserve, which should be kept at Vincennes, should be about 100,000 rifles; but it will not be possible to have it this year. At least 40,000 rifles should be collected, with a number of pistols, swords, and carbines proportioned.[94]

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7th. To Toulon, 20,000 rifles would be needed to arm the squadron, the workmen, and the national guards: it would take 5,000 for Marseilles and 5,000 for Antibes, which would make 30,000 rifles for this portion of the Mediterranean coast.

I am not talking about what it would take for our land border; I suppose there is always a sufficient supply of weapons. It would be necessary, however, to keep an eye on the fact that in every place there was always enough to arm the National Guard, both in the city and in the neighborhood. A known place in Strasbourg, for example, must not have less than 12,000 rifles in reserve, since in twenty-four hours there would be at least 12,000 men in Alsace. It is the same with Maestricht, where the National Guards of the Lower Rhine, as well as Mainz, would soon be assembled.

I think that on the land side there will always be enough guns, and besides, we are always able to see the enemy coming; but on the sea side it may be surprising, and it is necessary that in advance the supply of arms be fully formed. This supply may consist partly of old rifles and partly of foreign rifles.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19723. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Trianon, March 16, 1813.

I have nothing to add to all that I have ordered you for the places of Flushing, Breskens, Ostend, Antwerp, Berg-op-Zoom, Willemstad and Goeree; these places must be armed and supplied. Let me know what is the current armament and supply, and what this supply consisted of in the past campaigns.

For Holland, I have already ordered the arming of Delfzyl and Coeverden. Present me the project to arm Naarden and Gorcum, supplying them for a month of food. Order that all the necessary measures be taken, under the responsibility of General Molitor and the officers of the artillery, so that there shall not remain in Holland any other depot of rifles than that which will be established in these two places. Make sure you put in each one an good Commander. Present me a draft decree to arm the citadel of Breda and that of s-Hertogenbosch. Here is what decides me to these last measures: s-Hertogenbosch and Breda can not be[95]

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occupied, these cities are too large and too large; but I can not yet resolve to demolish them; there is therefore a medium-term to be taken, it is to make no repair to the cities, not to demolish anything, and to occupy only as a place of war the citadel which dominates the place and which consequently would prevent the enemy from to seize the city. If the time comes when it would be necessary to occupy the city, then we would have time to see the enemy arrive, and, under the protection of the citadel, to do what would be necessary to hold and arm the city.

I wish to be called Colonel Bernard, my aide-de-camp, at the meetings of the fortifications committee, where we will discuss what is relative to the place of Arnheim, so that he may bring me the plans and put me under the eyes the state of the matter.

If the places of the Yssel had a citadel, I would rather apply to them this system of guarding the city by occupying only the citadel; otherwise I would consent to their demolition, and keep only Deventer, by having powder vaulted shops and other works to perfect his defense done in this place. As for Groningen, I would not like to demolish this place; I would not want to occupy it, but if there is a citadel, I would like to occupy the citadel, arm it and leave things in good condition.

I want to know the situation of Münster. I consider the Ems as the first line of defense of Holland; but this line would have no force unless we occupy Münster, which is between the Lippe and the canals. It would be difficult then for an army to embark between Münster and Coeverden, and then to pass between Wesel, Arnheim and Deventer; it would be four places to hide, which would be very hazardous on the part of the enemy. I therefore regard Münster as an important place to occupy; and then it would be necessary to study the line of the Ems to see the fortifications of countryside which one could establish there, and the party to draw forts which existed on this side.

I wish the Fortifications Committee to present a work on the bases I have just given. Colonel Bernard will bring me all the plans, so that I can definitely take the proper measures.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[96]

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19724. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Trianon. March 16, 1813.

Give orders on the spot for four pieces of cannon to be placed at the fort of the Vigie of the Hyeres Islands; that this fort be supplied for a month; to place all that is necessary; that an adjutant be charged to command there, and that the garrison of the island should always furnish about sixty men on this point, the occupation of which would always obstruct the operations which the enemy would like to attempt on the island. Order that we occupy the fort from below, supply it, and put it in order. It is a pity that no tower has been built on the island of the Levant; if it could be done before June, it would be very advantageous, because some forty men could then shelter this island from all attempts of the enemy. Let me know the general or superior officer who will command the island of Hyeres.

Appoint an intelligent and active brigadier general to command at Hyères, Toulon, and the department of Var.

I do not know if the battery of La Caraque, on the peninsula Sepet, already has some defense, and if it is safe from a hand. However, it is necessary to establish, from April 15, a camp of 1,000 men in the peninsula Sepet, to defend the batteries and especially that of the Caraque. I consider this precaution to be of the utmost importance. It is necessary to have there a superior intelligent and active officer who knows well that peninsula, the interest which I attaches to preserve it, and which defends it as much time as it will take to receive help of Toulon and the Wing.

I think it is also necessary that we put four carronades on the tower of the Éguillette, to beat on the side of earth and keep the batteries safe from any surprise. Regardless of the gunners, there must be at least 100 garrison men there to do the service and take care to prevent any surprises.

A tower would be very useful to the battery of Cape Brown. The commander of Fort Lamalgue must ensure that this battery is not surprised. If there is no tower, I think at least it is closed to the throat and safe from a coup de main. All these precautions seem to me necessary for Toulon. Order also to place at Toulon pieces on all points of the master line of the enclosure, so that the walls are flanked by grape shot.[97]

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Have items also placed at Fort Sainte-Catherine. Keep Fort Faron in good condition. There should also be some pieces at Fort Malbousquet; but the main thing is that the speaker is safe from a coup de main, which is easy with a few parts. These precautions, I repeat, seem necessary to Toulon, where we have twenty-five vessels, a large flotilla, and where the enemy, therefore, could do us much harm. I do not think, however, that the enemy is exposed to any serious attempt on Toulon, it would be a foolish operation; but he could, meditating on an attack on the squadron, surprise the batteries of Cape Sepet and Cape Brown, in order to attack with advantage our ships in the harbor, and even to turn the batteries of Sepet against our fleet. If we were not on our guard, we would need only 4,000 men of good troops, who, having once surprised the batteries, could maintain themselves enough time in the peninsula to embark it if their blow was failing.

As for the island of Hyères, it is possible that the enemy puts importance to seize it, since it would allow him to anchor quietly in the roadstead and to do us good harm. 3 or 4,000 men would suffice for this operation, if we were not on his guard.

After Toulon, the point where the enemy could do us some harm would be Rochefort; but the island of Aix must have a garrison of 1,500 men and an intelligent commander.

There must be no less than a good battalion at Oleron and the Isle of Re, independently of the inhabitants.

Brest must have a half-armament, if not in the advanced works, at least on the master line of the enclosure.

I have nothing to add to the precautions prescribed for Cherbourg. Le Havre must have a supply, and parts for the new enclosure. The fort near Calais must be armed, as well as the places of Ostend and Nieuport, if not with an entire armament, at least with a half-armament.

Mainz, Juliers and Venlo must be ready to be armed and have all that is needed. Let me know how many cartridges and ammunition you make on Mainz and Wesel; we have many in all our places, where they are spoiled. It is necessary to have a large quantity of powder at Metz and at Lille, in order to be able, as of a center, to spread everywhere it will be necessary. As the powder at the seaside deteriorates, it would be good to take advantage of the ease of transport to move to[98]

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Wesel the one that is already old on the coasts, making it replace as and with the new powder. There must be powder made on the Scheldt; it would be useful to run the oldest on Wesel, replacing it as and when shipments.

According to the minute. Archives the Empire.

19725. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Trianon, March 16, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, send a second convoy of 4 million for Spain,

This convoy will be divided in the following manner: for the Army of the North, in silver, 200,000 francs; in bills, 200,000; for the rest of this army, in silver, 500,000 francs; in bills, 500,000; total 1,400,000 francs; for the Army of Portugal, in silver, 6000 francs; in the amount of 6,000,000; for the Army of the South, in silver, 500,000 francs; in bills, 500,000; for the Silver Army Center, 200,000 Swiss francs; in bills, 200,000; together, 4 million

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19726. - TO CATHERINE, QUEEN OF WESTPHALIA, In COMPIÈGNE,

Trianon, March 17, 1813

My Sister, I am glad to hear your arrival at Compiegne. I had thought that the King would only send you out if the bulk of the enemy army had arrived in Berlin or Dresden. I had told him my opinion in the most positive manner, telling him that it was only in the event that the Emperor Alexander or General-in-chief Kutuzov arrived at Berlin; but he did leave when only the light cavalry arrived there. A few days later would have been useful, because that was an object of anxiety for the 32nd military division and even here in Paris,

I thought that, under the present circumstances, it was better for your Majesty to remain at Compiegne, having not yet announced his arrival in Paris. I counted on going to Compiegne myself in a few days; but, this trip being delayed, I do not see any inconvenience that you leave your house in Compiegne and that you come here with a part of your service of honor. That your[99]

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Majesty does not doubt all the pleasure I will have in seeing her and all the feelings I feel for her.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19727, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDATE IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, TO LEIPZG;

Trianon, March 17, 1813, in the morning.

My Son, I send you two newsletters from Hamburg; it must be crazy in this country. All these alarms come from General Lauriston. I do not see how, when one has 80,000 men at Magdeburg, one can have these anxieties in Hamburg. That's how a division is upset. These circumstances render the arrival of the Prince of Eckmühl necessary on this side; he knows Hamburg well and is well known.

Six battalions have now passed Wesel to Bremen. The twenty-eight 2nd battalions of the 1st and 2nd corps are in motion: the twenty-eight 4th battalions are also in motion; on the Lower Elbe or in the 32nd Military Division there will be fifty-six battalions belonging to the 1st and 2nd corps.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19728. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDATE IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, TO LEIPZG

Trianon, March 17, 1813, four o'clock in the afternoon.

My Son, I send you a bulletin from Hamburg on the 12th: you will see that 200 Cossacks will seize the entire 32nd military division. Many gunboats were sunk. They hurt me by millions; they carry the insurrection on all the rear of the line of the Elbe. This is the result of keeping you on the defensive behind the left bank, you have no action on the enemy. I have repeated this to you so much, and I have told you so in detail by General Flahault, that I hope at last that you will have felt the necessity of occupying a camp in front of Magdeburg, and of threatening to cut off all the enemy parties sinking on the side of Hamburg, 80 leagues from the bulk of their army. This is all the more important as what happens in the 32nd Division will probably attract landings of English, Swedes and perhaps even Russians, and when the enemy is established[100]

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on the lower Elbe, if it makes a movement in Dresden in force to which you will have nothing to oppose, you will find yourself without a line of operation. By uniting your cavalry at the camp in front of Magdeburg, the enemy would be obliged to recall all his own to keep it in check, and you would have protected the return of General Morand from Swedish Pomerania. According to the attached bulletin, his return seems to require many obstacles. How did this general set in motion only on the 11th, while you had left Berlin on the 4th?

I have nothing to add to all the letters I wrote to you later this month. The big deal is the 32nd Military Division and Westphalia, since Holland depends on it: all this can only be guarded by an offensive position ahead of Magdeburg. All the returns that were to take place in the 32nd Division, they are lost. That's our paralyzed means of cavalry, and that by 2 or 300 men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leucheenberg.

19729. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE 5th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT MAGDEBURG.

Trianon. March 17, 1813.

I receive your letter of March 11th. I do not understand what you are saying when you talk about taking a position with center in Brunswick and right in Magdeburg; I do not understand anything about it. I ordered you to sit in front of Magdeburg and not in Brunswick. Besides, as you will now be in direct communication with the viceroy, it is the viceroy that you must take your orders.

I do not really know what orders you give to Hamburg; but you make them lose their heads. Calm was restored when you warned them that we must be ready to evacuate the city; you send the deposit back; and finally, instead of reassuring, you give the alarm. I do not understand anything about this behavior.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19730. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Trianon. March 18, 1813.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, please bring me today,[101]

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at four o'clock all the pieces on Sweden. I think it's time to make a statement and print the pieces.

My intention is to inform the Senate of the appointment I have made of the senators of the Hanseatic towns, a communication in which I will make known my resolution never to yield any of the provinces of my Empire. I think that in this circumstance it is necessary to make known the projects of Sweden on Norway and the causes of our rupture with Sweden. This can only have advantages and no longer has any inconvenience.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19731. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 18, 1813,

Duke de Feltre, glancing at the great state of cavalry in a hundred columns, I am struck with an error. The 9th of Hussars, whose depot is at Schelestadt, is worn as having the 1st and 2nd squadrons coming from Spain: it is a mistake; it is the 9th bis, today 12th.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19732.- TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY
COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Trianon, March 18, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter by which you inform me that you would like to be able to change the organization of the divisions of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps; but that would not serve you any good and disturb all my writings. In fact, the 1st division or Compans division can only be ready in the first ten days of April; Bonet's division may be ready on the 1st of April; nothing prevents you from having this division march first, however, assuming that the 37th Light is dressed; the 3rd division can not be ready until the first days of April; finally, the 4th division will be only around the 10th of April. Thus, by organizing one of these divisions in the country of Nassau, a second in the country of Darmstadt, and another in Hanau, you will reach your goal: you will disgorge Mainz, and you will arrive at the same result.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[102]

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19733. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZG

Trianon. March 18, 1813

My son, I send you a letter from General Latour-Maubourg.

Let him know that the bad organization of his corp is his fault and that of all the generals, who, instead of stirring up, to distribute what was in the stock and to constantly be busy handing over their troops in state, have done nothing; they have been frozen so far. That's where the state of affairs comes from. You gave money to every man for repairs; they say there are many things in Magdeburg, have them distributed.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19731. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZG

Trianon, March 18, 1812

My Son, I have nothing to add to all the letters I wrote to you from the 5th to the 16th. The 32nd Military Division and Westphalia are the principal objects of my solicitude. The evacuation of Hamburg costs me many millions and more than a hundred pieces of cannon, and it causes your cavalry a great delay in its organization.

I sent General Dubreton to command the 4th division of the Grand Army, composed of the 12 2nd battalions of the 2nd corps and which meets in Magdeburg. General Morand, who was in Pomerania, commanded the sixteen battalions of the 1st corps, forming the 1st division. It will be necessary to attach to these two divisions four generals of brigade. General Dumonceau went to Osnabrück to take command of the sixteen 4th battalions of the 1st corps, forming the 2nd division, General Dufour will command the twelve 4th battalions of the 2nd corps, forming the 5th division. These two divisions are going to meet at Osnabruck and Bremen, under the orders of General Vandamme, and will not be long in arriving. By this means, four divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps will be united between the sea and the lower Elbe. The Duke de Bellune does not know enough of the 32nd military division, neither men nor things, and is not known about it: the Prince of Eckmühl must have the command.

General Reynier suffices to command at Dresden, and I do not see why you send so many commanders. Since the division[103]

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Girard is already in Dresden, there is little disadvantage that it reinforces this important point. The decision to blow the bridge of Dresden and restore the old enclosure at the head of the city seems to me to be suitable; but all these preparations will disappear if the enemy makes a movement of 40,000 men on Dresden; and it is against this movement that we must guard ourselves. One must not look for whether the enemy will make or move; what he does not do immediately, he can do it in a fortnight, and in a fortnight nothing will be changed on your side. It is because you have been dazzled by such illusions that you have not taken a big party.

I repeat to you, then, that you must give the Prince of Eckmuhl the command of the 32nd Division and all the banks of the Elbe, from Magdeburg to Hamburg; that the Duke of Belluno, with the 4th Division, and a handful of Bavarians and Poles, will command from Wittenberg to Dessau; that the garrison of Torgau will keep the left bank, and that it will strengthen all that belongs to General Reynier. Since it appears that General Reynier's corps is so weak, you will leave Girard's division to him, but it must be spread out in the second line, so as not to be cut off from Magdeburg.

Gather the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Corps on Magdeburg. Have the four divisions of General Lauriston and the two of General Grenier placed ahead of this place. Take your Magdeburg Operation Line on Wesel; beat by cavalry and infantry vanguards, with artillery, all the right bank: the alarm will be immediately in Berlin. The fear that you will take the offensive while carrying Stettin will hold the enemy. This is the most powerful means of coming to the aid of Dresden, and you will at least be sure to prevent any operation on Hamburg. I have nothing else to add; it would be the same repetition.

You will keep Dresden if the enemy wishes it, and, doubtless, as long as the enemy does not come with 25 to 30,000 men, whom he will pass for 50,000, they will not evacuate Dresden. From the measures which have been taken, it is evident that the enemy will not attempt to force the city; but, if he is strong, he will threaten to pass or will actually pass to the right or to the left, upstream or downstream. However, it is a very great point to keep Dresden until the enemy has made an army move, and as long as possible.

But we must finally take a position that protects you from[104]

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the will of the enemy, and that you can occupy, whatever he does, from where you can control his movements by forcing him to come and block you. It can only be the result of an offensive position, camping in front of Magdeburg, or at least having a camp that covers your cantonments, if you do not want to camp all your troops and, in case the season would still be too rough, group them around Magdeburg on both shores, making strong detachments on Spandau in the direction of Stettin. This will restore the morale and discipline of the military and all business.

As for food, you have the most beautiful provinces of Germany at hand; your parties are covered by a large river; you can not have trouble living. All this is all the more important because we must expect from one moment to another an English landing on the Hamburg side.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19735. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZG

Trianon, March 18, 1813.

My son, General Vandamme will have arrived on the 25th of March at Wesel; he will take the command of the 2nd division of the 1st corps, composed of the sixteen 4th battalions which are under the orders of General Dumonceau, of the 5th division, composed of the twelve 4th battalions of the 2nd corps, which are under the orders of General Dufour, and ten battalions of the divisions united. General Vandamme will therefore have thirty-eight battalions under his command, but all young troops. I ordered that an artillery battery be organized at Wesel at once. General Vandamme will first carry his headquarters to Osnabruck, from there to Minden and Bremen; he will restore the police to the coast, restore General Carra St. Cyr to Hamburg, and restore everything to order in Lübeck. Four or five of these battalions must have already arrived at Osnabruck; others will arrive in the last days of the month and in the first days of April.

As soon as the Prince of Eckmühl has arrived on the left, you will give him the command of the 1st Division, to be commanded by General Morand, that of the corps of General Vandamme, and all the 32nd Military Division. This marshal is very clean, by the knowledge he has of localities, to restore order and to give examples.[105]

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severe. You will tell General Morand to keep his gunners and sailors, my intention being to send him back to Pomerania with the 1st Division as soon as we are on the Oder.

General Dubreton will command the 4th division of the Grand Army, composed of the 12 2nd battalions of the 2nd corps and which meets in Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19736. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 19, 1813.

Write to the new prefect of Hamburg (1) to be returned for the 25th at the headquarters of General Saint-Cyr, to take the administration of Hamburg. He will call back all the employees of the prefecture; he will make known that I disapprove of those who have retired to Denmark.

Inform the mayor of Hamburg that the city must continue to pay all taxes, and that all laws must be maintained; that otherwise the city would be responsible.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19737. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 19, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, answer to General Lauriston that the evacuation of Hamburg, which is doing so much harm to the customs and finances, and the public spirit in the 32nd Division, is the result of the false direction he has given to General Carra Saint-Cyr; that instead of reassuring Hamburg he has put all in alarm; that the two cohorts were well enough with the National Guards to stop Cossack excursions, especially if he had gathered at least two of his divisions and cavalry ahead of Magdeburg, threatening to cut off what would sink to the side of Hamburg; but that he took no precautions, and that 200 Cossacks will seize the whole country.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

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1) M. de Breteuil.[106]

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19738. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BOURCIER,
COMMANDNT THE DEPOSITS OF CAVALRY, HANOVER.

Trianon. March 19, 1813.

I am not satisfied with your letters; I receive 10 and 12; they do not teach me anything. I see that you have only 3,000 men on horseback, and yet, according to your states, you have more than 10,000 horses. Why did not he go up and do not do service? There were clothing effects in Hamburg and Magdeburg.

I have authorized you to take all the necessary measures to take advantage of the localities and activate the returns; it seems to me that you do not enjoy all the latitude I have given you. Deposits had to send many things by the end of February. You should correspond to Mainz with the agent of the transport company, to find out where it is.

Finally, I would have to send me a report on the number of men you have, the horses you have, the saddles you have, the ones you are missing and the means you have to get them, weapons that you have. what you miss and what resources you rely on to get them. Give the same information about equipment effects.

You promised me on the 30th of March, 12,000 men on horseback; I count on it.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19739. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZG

Trianon. March 19, 1813, in the morning.

My Son, I receive your letters from the evening of the 14th. The part of the Guard that you have with you must not have any artillery served by the Guard personnel, since all the artillery equipment of the Guard meets in Frankfurt, and that it is necessary to join the staff you have.

Wittenberg must be kept, I do not think that 3,000 men are necessary to his garrison: 1,500 to 2,000 men are enough, and I have made known to you what kind of troops you must employ there. There must be food for three months; you have to have the amount of water needed to put six feet of water in[107]

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pits. With what exists the layout and the reliefs of the works, this place must be in stall. Order that cannon pieces be put in front of the bridge; that a little bridgehead be established on the left bank, with palisades, and that it be armed with four pieces of cannon, so that the enemy, crossing the river, can not burn the bridge. Have a blockhouse built there. There are four to five small bridges over the floods; it is necessary to occupy those which it is advisable to keep by drums, such as small guard-houses which can not be removed by Cossacks.

General Bourcier writes to me and says nothing to me. I see that he has 5,000 horses and 5,000 men in Hannover, and that he can not dispose of it, because he lacks weapons and equipment effects. Yesterday I sent you a report of what the administration of the war sent and what is in Magdeburg. It seems to me that you gave 40 francs to each man to equip himself.

What you say in your letter teaches me nothing; they are stalls that should have, in order to know what we have to send. Many things in the markets are paid for with treasury notes, which are cash. The treasury minister must have sent money to Magdeburg.

The enemy cavalry could not venture on Hamburg, if you were in an offensive position on the right bank, since it would be afraid of being cut off.

You tell me in some of your letters that the Saxon corps has an epidemic: it would be urgent first that General Girard should not mingle his troops with the Saxons; this must be the first of all considerations.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19740. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, LEIPZG

Trianon, March 19, 1813.

My son, I have nothing to add to the letters I wrote to you previously. If General Reynier were obliged to evacuate Dresden, and the enemy, master of that city, had thus turned the line of the Elbe, I informed you that it must have no influence on your position before Magdeburg. In addition to the line of the Mulde, which I indicated to you to be taken by General Reynier to keep the country against the incursions of Cossacks,[108]

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there is still that of the Saale. Have the number of bridges on this river recognized. The Saale, which will throw itself into the Elbe near Magdeburg, has a very steep course, which presents only a small number of passages. It would be all the more possible to hold the position of this line and to arrest a vanguard of enemy light troops, that on March 25th, General Wrede, with 10,000 Bavarians, artillery and cavalry, will have arrived at Bamberg and could easily carry the head of this column over Schleiz and Saalfeld.

General Souham will be on March 25 in Würzburg, and the 1st Rhine Observation Corps will be there on April 1. This corps could also easily be carried on Iena, Naumburg, Merseburg, and by this means the whole line of the line would be guarded. General Reynier would keep Halle, and the Duke of Bellune, from Halle to the mouth of the Saale in the Elbe. Then an offensive move of eight divisions ahead of Magdeburg would prevent the enemy from fighting off between our different years. When I speak of the line of the Mulde, the line of the Saale, it is always based on the offensive position that you will occupy in front of Magdeburg, because otherwise there is no line: the Elbe and the Rhine and wider rivers are not.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19741. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 20, 1813.

Your letter of the 19th says nothing. It is absolutely necessary to have 171,000 rifles on the ribs, as I ordered; but the weapons we have removed from Hanover and those which we do not use online may be reserved for this purpose. It is necessary to be reassured on this, especially for the important points, such as Antwerp, Brest, Rochefort and Toulon. It is a great misfortune for all these sailors, in case of an event, not to serve in the defense of the squadron and the port, by default. weapons.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[109]

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19742. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 20, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I told you that the two cohorts of Hamburg were sufficient with the National Guard to stop the incursions of the Cossacks, especially if General Lauriston had united two or three divisions ahead of Magdeburg, with the cavalry, threatening to cut everything that came to Hamburg's side.

I see that the letter I signed was badly written; this must happen often, because after dictating I can not read my letters again. When therefore it will be the least fishy and the least you do not understand, you have to write it to me.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19743. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon. March 20, 1813.

General Molitor is alarmed and asks for instructions. His instructions are clear: in case of an event, which is not probable, he must put garrison at Fort Lasalle; Admiral Ver Huel will disembark as many crews as it will take to help serve the batteries; it is there that the protection of the squadron, He must put a detachment on the island of Texel to protect the gunboat boats; he must put a garrison at Hellevoetsluis and Brielle, occupy Naarden and Gorcum. Four or five gunboats must pass into the sea of Haarlem, and there must be a good company in the guardhouse entrenched from the dikes of Haarlem.

With these precautions, Holland will not be susceptible to attack. 1,200 or 1,500 men at Fort Lasalle, without understanding the crews, 1,000 at each of the forts of Brielle and Hellevoetsluis, a thousand men at Naarden and as many at Gorcum, would make only 5 or 6,000 men. The general has much more, without understanding the gendarmerie, the departmental companies and the troops necessary for the maintenance of order in Amsterdam, Every day troops will arrive at Utrecht. A serious operation can not take place before the month of May, and at that time there will be 15,000 men in the camp at Utrecht.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[110]

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19744. - TO CAPTAIN D'HAUTPOUL, OFFICER OF ORDNANCE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 20, 1813.

Baron d'Hautpoul, you will go to Metz, in order to take an exact and detailed knowledge of the situation, both in men and horses, and in the effects of clothing and harness, cavalry regiments stationed in the 3rd Military Division. In the situation of the personnel of each regiment you will distinguish: 1st) the number of men on 1 February; 2nd) men arrived from the cadres of the Grande Armée; 3rd) men drawn from the conscription of 1813; 4th) those of the conscription of the four years; 5th) those provided by the reserve companies; 6th) those leaving the gendarmerie; 7th) those taken in the cohorts; 8th), finally, those from the conscription supplement of the four years. Each column of the situation report will have to be subdivided so as to present what the regiment was to receive, what it has received and what remains to be received, You will also make known the number of men that the regiments have to the Great Army. You will report in your report if the Colonel, the Major and the Squadron Heads exist, if they are in your corps or if they are not there, and in this case you will designate the place where they may be and finally if they are in a position to make the campaign. You will enter into the detail of the composition of the executives of each company, and you will indicate how many captains for as many companies as there are 125 men, how many lieutenants, second lieutenants, marshals of how many of these officers and non-commissioned officers are in the regiment, and how many must be provided by the gendarmerie.

The situation status of the horses must make known: (1) the strength on February 1st; (2) the number of horses which had to be furnished on the purchase of the 15,000 horses ordered by the decree of January 4th, how much was delivered, to what regiments they were handed over, and at what period they left; (3) the number of horses from voluntary donations, the regiments on which they were sent, and the time of their departure. You will recount if everything has been provided and what are the arrangements made to obtain the complement of what is necessary, You will make a distinction of what exists at the Grand Army.

Finally you will present me a similar situation for all the effects of harnessing and clothing, and you will make me known[111]

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if you have all the necessary sheets for the clothing of all the bodies.

Your report will enable me to judge what the regiments can supply this campaign, and at what time the companies of 100 or 125 men can be ready.

You will then go to Commercy, from where you will report to me on the situation of the 2nd, 6th, 7th, 15th and 17th battalions of the train of the military crews, distinguishing the personnel, the wagons, the teams; in a word, you will do the same work that I ask you for the cavalry regiments. From Commercy you will go to Nancy, where you will do a similar work on the regiments which are in the 4th division; and then to Mainz, from where you will give me the same account for the cavalry regiments stationed in the 26th Division. You will also let me know everything about the personnel and equipment of the artillery teams. When you are at Mainz, you will report to me every day the convoys of artillery, crews, and ambulances that pass through this city.

Attached you will find, for your information, the following: 1st) the condition of the 8,000 horses which had to leave France for Magdeburg; 2nd) the condition of the effects of clothing; 3rd) the state of the effects sent by the corps; 4th) the state of the munitions of war. You will pass to the office of the transport company under the direction of Mr. Bobée, who will provide you with the necessary information to enable you to be aware of what has become of each object designated in the states of which I have just spoken, of so that I can know perfectly well, and every day, what is left, what is left, and where each convoy should be.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Marquis d'Hautpoul.

19745. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Trianon. March 20, 1813.

My Son, there must be three different operations in Magdeburg, namely: one in the citadel, one in the bridgehead and the third in the city. I wish that each of these handling be from eight to twelve ovens; give orders accordingly. I would like there to be two handling at Erfurt, namely: one in the citadel, six ovens, and one in the city, twelve; give order to build them. As soon as Wittenberg is armed, he will[112]

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also establish a handling of eight to twelve furnaces. I suppose there is at Torgau a handling of nine to ten furnaces; if it was not, have one set up. Let me know the workings that exist in Dresden, and get all the materials ready so that we can in three days, as soon as the head of the vanguard of the army has arrived on the Saale, build in Dresden three handling, each of twelve ovens. When we take the offensive, we will arrive in this city with 200,000 men, and I have a great interest in camping and barracking my army, to wait for my cavalry, the complement of the artillery crews and all that is necessary. .

You will find attached a copy of a decree I made for the organization of military crews. The 20th Battalion will be abolished: thus, instead of five battalions, you will only have two battalions of six companies in the army. You will send the 14th battalion to Münster, and, according to the will of the general commanding the division, he will meet at Münster or Wesel. You will leave the 22nd between the 10th and the 12th battalion. Press as much as possible the organization of your battalions. The observation corps of the Elbe also having a battalion of military crews, you will have three in all.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. 1. The Duchess of Leuehtenberg.

19746. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT HANAU.

Trianon, March 20, 1813.

The 1st and 2nd divisions of your corps must have their artillery. I suppose the number of brigade generals is complete. So I want you to go to Würzburg to gain space. The 1st division will be able to take a position in the Schweinfurt valley, and the 2nd, in Würzburg itself, will be united in the city. You will occupy the citadel of Würzburg by the battalion of the 4th corps, 600 French; it seems that this citadel can not contain more. Send the two Hesse-Darmstadt battalions to the small fort of Koenigshofen, where they will keep the fort and will be gathered there for observation. Place also the two battalions of Wurtemberg in front, so that they are united on the road from Würzburg to Gotha, and that, by this means, you have room for your 3rd and 4th divisions, which you will meet first in Aschaffenburg. So you will have emptied[113]

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entirely the whole Count of Hanau, which is necessary to unite the 2nd corps of the Rhine.

I suppose that from 1 to 5 April all your army corps will be gathered in Würzburg, and in column on the way from Würzburg to Gotha and in Weimar.

You will place at Schweinfurt, if there is sufficient fodder, your brigade of cavalry commanded by General Beaumont, and which will be composed of the 10th regiment of hussars, the Hessian regiment and the Baden regiment; that must make 2,500 men; but I do not think that at present there is more than 1,200, sufficient force to push parties on the Saale and to prevent Cossack platoons, if they passed Dresden, to move too far from their army.

In the first five days of April, General Wrede must have arrived at Bamberg: order him to send his brigade of cavalry on Schleiz, with a battery of artillery and two battalions of infantry, so that he can tell you everything that's going on. Order him to arm Kronneh. Thus, by this means, you can easily light the bank of the Saale, if the circumstances required it. Recommend to General Wrede to carry very high the forces which meet under his orders, and especially the number of his cavalry.

In the course of April all the Wurtemburg corps, the Baden and Hesse contingents will arrive at Wurzburg. It is probable that then I will have ordered you to go to the Saale at Iena, Weimar and Naumburg. By this means, Wurzburg will be evacuated, and General Marchand may bring these corps together; but it is not my intention that none of your troops pass the mountains unless you have all your artillery.

Many officers, lieutenants, and second lieutenants have been sent to you; so your cohorts will change their figure. You have to see them several times, by doing inspections like the ones I do, to make sure of yourself the good qualities of the officers and replace those who are bad with better ones. It is my hope that, before the 1st of April, your 1st and 2nd divisions will have all their artillery, and that your 3rd and even 4th will have it before the 10th. Your double supply will not arrive until the end of April; but, as I have ordered that a lot of ammunition be placed in the citadel of Wurzburg, and that there is a large quantity of it in Torgau, Dessau, and Wittenberg, a simple supply will suffice to support the defense on the Elbe. It would be advisable that before the 15th of April you could make sure of four days of bread and[114]

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ten days of flour. Make 400,000 rations of biscuit in Würzburg, in order to have twenty days of food.

Here is the situation of the army: General Reynier, with the Saxons, the Durutte division, and General Girard, is at Dresden. It appears that the bridge was ruined to blow it up, and that the city was cut off to defend itself. Wittenberg is cut off and armed; eight feet of water were placed in the ditches, 3,000 Poles formed the garrison. 6,000 Saxons are in Torgau. Lastly, General Grenier, with the 11th corps, is between Magdeburg and Willenberg; General Lauriston, with his four divisions, is at Magdeburg; the duke of Bellune, with the division of the 2nd corps, is near Magdeburg, and a division of sixteen battalions of the prince of Eckmuhl is carried on the lower Elbe; General Morand, who has evacuated Swedish Pomerania, occupies Lower Elbe with the troops of General Carra Saint-Cyr; General Vandamme, with thirty battalions, will debut on the 25th of Wesel on Bremen.

General Lauriston has ninety-two guns; the viceroy has already organized a hundred and fifty, so there are two hundred and forty pieces of cannon in the corps of the Elbe, not to mention the canons of the Saxons.

In this situation, if the enemy were in good condition, it would be feared that he would be on Dresden and thus force General Reynier to retreat first to the Mulde, and perhaps behind the Saale.

As soon as I see the observation corps of Italy arrive at Nuremberg (it began its movement on March 10th), that I will know your complete artillery, and that you will begin to be in state, that is to say of From the 10th to the 15th of April, I may order you to go to the Saale, occupying Iena, Naumburg, Merseburg, and having your headquarters at Weimar. General Marchand would follow you as soon as his corps was formed. You would gather in this position more than fifty pieces of cannon and more than 60,000 men, without cavalry, which would support General Reynier well; and a few days later, when the 2nd corps of observation of the Rhine could go on the Saale, I would send you with your corps to cover Dresden, and to command all the right, which would then be about 80,000 strong. It would be a matter of getting stuck in front of Dresden, covering itself with some redoubts and waiting for the arrival of the cavalry. But from that moment the defense will be assured, and we would be masters to take the offensive when it suits us.[115]

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I ordered the Viceroy to camp in front of Magdeburg with his eight divisions, to assemble cavalry, to threaten to cut everything that would be carried on Hamburg, and even to threaten Berlin.

We are still at the end of March; so there may still be many more events by April 10, where I suppose you may be able to leave Würzburg. So you have to use this time to put yourself in position and organize yourself; for it must in no case be obliged to retreat; it would fatigue and disorganize these young troops.

I have news of the 12th of Breslau. The Prussians armed, but still kept appearances, and my minister was always treated with the proper respect.

I received news from Hamburg on the 16th, that there was no news of the enemy; we spoke only of a patrol of fifteen Cossacks, who, it was said, was twenty leagues from Hamburg. General Morand arrived from Pomerania.

Press General Wrede to assemble as many cavalry as possible under his command. He has only 600 men; it would be very important for him to have at least 1,500. I ordered that the cadres of the Bavarians who would find themselves without troops with the Viceroy go to Bamberg,

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19747. - TO M. GAUDIN, DUKE OF GAETE MINISTER OF FINANCE, PARIS.

Trianon, March 21, 1813.

You must give your instructions to Count Chaban (1) and all the agents of the administration: they must not have recourse to foreigners, and as long as he floats a French flag, as long as there is a battalion, they must remain with this flag, follow this battalion, and withdraw, in all cases, only on our frontiers.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19748. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Trianon, March 21, 1813,

Duke de Feltre, I send you your letters from Hamburg.

1) Chairman of the Liquidation Commission in Hamburg.[116]

inform General Saint-Cyr that he has acted in all this in haste and without keeping cool; that at first he was wrong to allow the French to go to Denmark, when all could accompany him; that it is ridiculous that a Councilor of State and a Consul General have left French territory without necessity; that since then the Councilor of State has come to Paris, but has had to leave at once to return to the headquarters of the division; that the Consul General was suspended from office for leaving his post; that, as to the evacuation of Hamburg, it was made without reason, without order, and without spirit; that it was necessary to leave the commander of arms at the head of the national guard and the city, and to declare only that one carried the headquarters of the division to such place, as more central; that all the rumors one has about the Cossacks are exaggerated or false. Tell him that he must behave towards Hamburg, with General Morand and all the customs officers; that 1,500 customs officers go to him to reinforce the lines; that finally thirty battalions under the orders of the general Vandamme are in march for the 32nd division; that already several battalions will have passed Wesel at the end of this month.

NAPOLEON

P. S. It is advisable that the imperial court and the provost court, as well as all the establishments attached to the chief town of this department, go to Bremen. Tell the judge about this decision.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19749. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Paris. March 23, 1813.

I have appointed Colonel Slivarich Brigadier General: write that a battalion of 1,000 men is still being raised in Croatia, and that he will leave as soon as he can with this battalion for the Grand Army, where he will command the whole Croatian brigade.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19750. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO, MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 23, 1813.

I strongly agree with what you did.[117]

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Send the order that all employees of the 32nd Military Division be arrested at Wesel and returned to their posts. Take great care to prevent anyone from arriving in Paris, and in the event that any of these employees have arrived there, have him leave at once, on pain of being arrested as having left his position without permission.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19751. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL COUNT DECRÈS,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 23, 1813.

Count Decres, I send you a letter. Let me know if it would not be possible to bring out a small division to remove all these prisoners who are in Cabrera: the time is still bad enough for that.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

19752. - TO BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE, TREASURER GENERAL.
CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAINE, PARIS.

Paris. March 23, 1813.

I wish you to hold a third million at the disposal of the Duke of Frioul, my grand marshal, to be paid in advance to the different corps of the Guard on the sums which they must receive from the Ministry of War for the expenses they have to do. These advances will be reimbursed by the corps as they receive the Minister's orders.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19753. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG

Paris. March 23, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of March 18th.

I see in the letters of Prince Eckmühl that the corps of General Reynier is only 2,000 men; I have always supposed this corps of 12,000 men.

I also see in these letters that Dombrowski's corps is only 300 men; I had always assumed, according to your situation, that this corps was 3,000 men.[118]

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I can not really understand how you do not have specific information on all of this and do not take steps to dress and gather these corps. It was better to send them to the rear, where they would have been dressed, or, as the Prince of Eckmuhl proposed, to incorporate them into the regiments of the Vistula; finally take some measures to use these men.

As for the cavalry, you give me no details. I do not understand what prevents the cavalry you have mounted. Large clothing stores were found at Magdeburg; many convoys of clothing effects were made by the corps; more than 8,000 saddles have left France: however, I do not see any details on the use of all these resources.

I am waiting for General Flahault tomorrow, who will doubtless give me the details of all this.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19754. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN VERONA

Paris, March 23, 1813.

Count Bertrand, note well the situation of the corps at the time of their departure from Trento, and organize well the battalions of march of Italy to 840 men present. Do the same thing for the Italians.

I suppose that your letters will succeed each other every day. I sent you new generals of division, Generals Morand and Lorencez. I see well the time when your corps will be united on the Danube; but I do not yet see that you have your artillery, your ambulances, and your military equipages. You must have received the decree on baggage and packhorses that I grant to carry the papers and the ambulances of the battalions; have them given to each corps. The Italian division must be thirteen battalions, not counting the Neapolitans, and your army corps must be nearly sixty battalions.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Henry Bertrand.[119]

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19755. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HANAU.

Paris, March 23, 1813.

The Viceroy carried his headquarters to Magdeburg. General Reynier remains at Dresden. Wittenberg is occupied in strength. General Doucet commands at Erfurt; it is my intention that you make known to this general that he is under your orders and that he must send you daily reports of all that is happening. Establish ways to correspond quickly with him. There must be more than 1,500 men garrison in Erfurt. The citadel is armed and supplied; there are six feet of water in the ditches of the city, and palisaded drums were built at the gates to shelter it from the Cossacks.

Send also officers to General Reynier at Dresden, and the French or Saxon commander at Leipzig, to be promptly informed of all that is happening, since the Viceroy, lying in front of Magdeburg, could not instruct you only later.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19756. - DECISION.

Paris, March 24, 1813.

DRAFT DECREE. NAPOLEON, & c. ART. 1. We grant to the Miss Catherine Corneille, daughter of Louis-Ambroise, and the Miss Marie-Alexandrine Corneille, daughter of Jean-Baptisfe-Antoine, both direct descendants of Pierre Corneille: 1st at the first, an annual pension and life of 300 francs; 2nd to the second, also an annual and life pension of 300 francs. ART. 2. Our Minister of the Interior, etc.	This is unworthy of that of which we would make a king. My intention is to make baron the eldest of the family with an endowment of 10,000 francs; I will baron the eldest of the other branch with an endowment of 4,000 francs, if they are not brothers. As for these young ladies, know their age and grant them a pension such that they can live.

From the original, Archives of the Empire.[120]

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19757. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 24, 1813.

I'm responding to your letter of the 23rd, artillery office. You represent that there are forty-six guns in Medemblik, and that this place being open and defenseless, it is sufficient to keep the two batteries which beat the entrance of the port: I am strong of this opinion . So give orders that the thirty-eight guns be evacuated, not on Breda or Bois-le-Duc, but on Fort Lasalle and the Helder. Their movement in this direction will do only good to the public, while in the opposite direction it would do a lot of harm: I would prefer to leave these pieces where they are rather than to alarm Holland.

I do not approve of the removal of the two pieces of 24 that were put into battery at Scheveningen, near The Hague, to protect the fishermen: it seems to me that they should be left there: they are useful and answer good for their purpose.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19758. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG,

Paris, March 24, 1813.

My son, I see in the letter of the Prince of Eckmühl of the 18th, that on the 19th he wanted to blow up the bridge of Dresden: it would be a great misfortune to abandon, without being forced by superior forces, one of the principal cities, It would besides be a means of attracting the enemy, for how to defend the part of the city which is on the right bank? and, if the enemy settles there, could we for a long time keep up with each other? I see in your letter of the 19th that you have ordered General Reynier to defend Dresden to the last extremity; I therefore hope that the Prince of Eckmühl will not have blown up the bridge.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. 1. Mrs. Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19759. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTALIVET, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 26, 1813.

I took a decree that removes the fund of 500,000 francs made[121]

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for the Menagerie, and which joins the fund of 200,000 francs granted this year for the Dock des Invalides. I have granted a fund of 240,000 francs for the construction of the Dock des Champs-Eysées on the right bank of the Seine. The funds des Archives will therefore remain intact, and we can begin the foundations of this year. I want you to bring me on Wednesday: 1st) the plan of the platform from the bridge of the Concorde to the bridge of Jena, which plan will have to make known what belongs to the Domain, which belongs to the commune and what would have to buy for the Archives, and that the houses which one would build regularly belonged to the government; 2nd) the plans of the Archives and the project of their location.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19760, - TO THE COUNT DE MONTESQUIOU,
GRAND CHAMBELLAN, IN PARIS,

Paris, March 26, 1813.

Count Montesquiou, I am surprised you have given entries to Paris without my order. I wish that this does not happen any more in the future, the entries that I had given to Trianon were calculated on the distance; for Paris, they are far too numerous and fill my apartments,

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by General Count de Montesquiou-Fezensac,

19761, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 26, 1813,

Duke de Feltre, reply to General Carra Saint-Cyr that I was unhappy that he had evacuated Hamburg; that he did this lightly, and that by his pusillanimity he drew the enemy; that I am also unhappy that he has left the banks of the Elbe, since, united with General Morand, he happened to have a column of four or five thousand men; that General Vandamme will proceed to Minden, Osnabruck, and Bremen with twenty-eight battalions; that as soon as the head has arrived he will have to take a position on the left of the Elbe and wait for the moment to return to Hamburg as soon as possible,

I ordered the court of appeal, the provost court, and the military division to be placed at Bremen as a central point.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Depot of War,[122]

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19672. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 26, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, the Duke of Piacenza was in charge of what concerns the formation of the 3rd Cavalry Corps. You ordered General Pully to make inspections; divide all the rest of France between Generals Corhineau, Dejeau, Flahault, and Preval. Introduce me on this distribution project. As the deposits of the Great Army are, I believe, fifty-two, each of these generals could travel a dozen; you would be careful to give the inspection of an entire division to the same general. These generals will have to leave without delay; they will be responsible for appointing all ranks of non-commissioned officers to render a delayed account of the cadres who are in the regiments, cadres to be organized this year for the two bodies meeting in Mainz, men whom each of the regiments must receive. They will announce how many men had the deposits in January; what they have since received from the conscription of 1813, the four years, the second appeal of four years, departmental companies and cohorts; what they must receive on that and what they have received; what they must have received from the officers and non-commissioned officers of the gendarmerie or from all the other corps, and what remains to be received on this subject: which will give a manpower, without understanding the conscription of 1814.

It will also be necessary to know for the horses what was at the depots, what should be received from the markets, the acquisition of the 15,000 from the cities; what we have received, what remains to be received, and why we have not received it.

Same observation for clothing, armament and equipment. It will also be necessary to make known when these different squadrons will leave. You will also instruct the five generals to see at the chief-place of each military division whether the depots of the division furnished their contingent of 15,000; the voluntary donations made by the departments, if they are filled; finally, donations made by individuals.

Make an instruction on this; present it to me, as well as a project, so that I know what each body must receive in men and horses.

You will at the same time charge all these generals to make a[123]

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inspection of all the military crews who organize themselves in the divisions where they go.

As for the 19th, which is in Italy, and the 4th, which is at Vienna in Dauphine, you will instruct Prince Borghese to pass the first review by an officer who will do the same work, and you will command the general commanding the 7th division from what is relative to the second, so you will not divert these generals too much and will not make them make way for a single regiment.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19763. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 26, 1813.

My Cousin, it is necessary that you come every day around four o'clock in the afternoon to take the orders for the army, Make them write me a state of situation of the army, which is divided into two great divisions: army of the Elbe and the Army of the Main.

The army of the Elbe is composed of:

10th Corps: 31st, 35th and 36th divisions;

2. From the observation corps of the Elbe, which takes No. 5: 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th divisions;

3. 1st Corps: 1st Division, which meets at Magdeburg, and 2nd Division, which meets at Wesel;

4. 2nd Corps: 4th Division, which meets at. Magdeburg, and 5th, at Wesel;

The 2nd and 5th divisions are under the orders of General Vandamme and must be on the Weser and Minden;

5. 7th Corps: 24th and 25th Divisions;

6. Finally, the first two corps of cavalry.

Let me know the situation of the infantry, the names of the generals of division and brigade, the warrant officers, the cavalry generals, artillery officers, and all the organization of this army, as well as the situation that he occupies. Write to the General Monthion to send, every five days, the state of the situation of the corps and the state of the changes which have occurred in the position of the troops, It is necessary to verify if there is the number of brigade generals necessary .

The Army of the Main is composed of:[124]

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1st) 3rd Corps (1st Rhine Observation Corps): 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Divisions, to be united at Magdeburg;

2nd) Of the 6th corps (2nd corps of observation of the Rhine): 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd divisions;

3rd) Of the 4th corps (observation corps of Italy): 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th divisions.

Let me know when all these divisions will come together. Let me know, for the cavalry, the organization of the detachments of the 1st and 2nd corps, which are at Mainz, and the 3rd Corps, which is at Metz.

Generals of division and brigade are needed for all these corps of infantry and cavalry; let me know those that exist, and have a job with the Minister of War so that all available officers are employed in these different corps. This work with the Minister of War is very important, for he missed many brigadier generals, while there are many who are unemployed.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19764. - TO THE GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL, GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 26, 1813,

I took a decree to create a regiment of flankers - grenadiers. My intention is that this regiment be completed on the conscription of the four years, and, consequently, it is destined to enter immediately in campaign.

I have also created an 8th regiment of tirailleurs and an 8th of voltigeurs. These two regiments will be, as well as the 4th and 5th, had all twelve battalions, completed by means of the conscription of 1814, and must remain for the defense from Paris and France, therefore they will only enter the campaign, if necessary, at the end of the year.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19765. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 26, 1813 (dispatched March 30).

My son, on the 25th of March, ten battalions of the 2nd and 5th divisions and the division of Hamburg had already arrived at Wesel. General[125]

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Vandamme had to arrive there the same day; Generals Dufour and Dumonceau had to follow. I suppose that General Vandamme will quickly turn to Bremen and Minden to guard the Weser, he will send General Morand and General Saint-Cyr to the Elbe, and will take possession of the whole division.

I ordered that the headquarters of the division, with the imperial court, the provost court, and all the central administrations should be placed in Bremen. Write to General Vandamme, first on Wesel, so that he will correspond with you and make you walk rapidly forward to occupy the entire left bank of the Elbe.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19766. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG

Paris. March 26, 1813.

My son, in a letter of the 20th, General Lauriston says that the English made a landing at Hamburg; he goes quickly to work. The English have no troops to send: all their efforts are on Lisbon; if they could send something, it would be a few hundred men. General Lauriston seems to me to have a very flammable head, and I fear he has no habit of command. All the rumors which reach him, he takes for facts: he does not know that ten times a day, in Paris, we receive the news of some landing, because of the movements of the merchant ships that the English send all over.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchrenberg.

19767. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 26, 1813.

My Son, I received your letter of the 20th; I saw with the greatest difficulty that Prince Eckmühl blew up the bridge at Dresden. This can not fail to attract the enemy. Especially if he has blown up a pile, it will exasperate the inhabitants and, consequently, the Saxon army. There is, then, much inconsistency in this conduct on the part of Prince Eckmühl. The Russians did not want to come to Dresden in force, so it was easier to barricade the bridge and stay quiet[126]

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in the city; and if, finally, the bridge were to be blown up, it was only necessary to blow up an arch, so that it could at once be repaired with pieces of wood, in order to remain master of the town, except throw these woods into the river when approaching the enemy. If the Russians have not yet entered Dresden, it is still necessary to do so.

Napoleon.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19768. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUC OF VALMY, SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Paris. March 26th 1813.

Cousin, activate the departure of the twenty-eight battalions which are to proceed to Wesel under the orders of General Vandamme; this is important in suppressing insurgencies in Bremen and the 32nd Military Division.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

19769. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 27, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, there are only three corps of cavalry in the army: the 1st commanded by General Latour-Maubourg, the 2nd by General Sehastiani, the 3rd by the Duke of Padua.

The 1st corps is composed of four divisions, the 2nd of three divisions, and the 3rd of four divisions; total, eleven divisions,

The 1st and 2nd corps must receive the value of two: squadrons per regiment, which makes one hundred and two squadrons; this will only be done successively. I ordered that all the depots of the regiments of the 1st cavalry corps should send at least a company of 100 men for the heavy cavalry, and one of 125 men for the light cavalry, and direct them to Mainz.

The 1st corps of cavalry of General Latour-Maubourg is charged with the Bruyere division, which has nine regiments of light cavalry; that makes nine companies or 1,100 men for the corps that meets at Mainz. A regiment of marches will be formed, to be known as a regiment of the 1st Light Cavalry Division.[127]

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The 3rd division, commanded by General Chastel, which is the 2nd of the 1st corps, is of eleven regiments, and, by removing the Italians, it will be only nine: of these nine, I notice that the 19th of chasseurs à cheval forms a separate system. The companies of the eight other regiments will form the regiment of march of the 3rd division, or 2nd regiment of march of light cavalry.

The companies of the regiments of the 1st division of heavy cavalry of the corps of General Latour-Maubourg will form the 1st regiment of march of heavy cavalry, or regiment of march of the 1st division of heavy cavalry.

The 3rd Division of Heavy Cavalry has seven regiments, which will form the 2nd Regiment of March of Heavy Cavalry, or Regiment of March of the 3rd Division of Heavy Cavalry of the 1st Corps.

These four regiments of march, which will form 4,000 men, will be known as the marching division of the 1st Cavalry Corps. These regiments must be commanded by a general of division and two brigade generals.

The 2nd Cavalry Corps, commanded by General Sehastiani, is of three divisions. The 3rd Light Cavalry Regiment will consist of six companies from the six regiments of the 2nd Light Cavalry Division. The 1st Light Cavalry Regiment will consist of seven companies from the seven regiments of the 4th Light Cavalry Division. Finally, the 3rd Heavy Cavalry Regiment will be formed of six companies of the six regiments of the 2nd Division of Cuirassiers, commanded by General Wattier, and will be called the Regiment of March of the 3rd Division of the 2nd Cavalry Corps. These three marching regiments will form the marching division of the 2nd Cavalry Corps.

I do not mind if you present General Saint-Germain to command one of these divisions and General Fournier for the other or any other division.

Let us sum up: There are three corps of cavalry; the 1st is composed of four divisions, the 2nd of three, which exist at the Grande Armée. You will give me the state of these two corps, as they are at the Grande Armée, with that of the generals of division, the brigadier generals, the mounted men, and the men on foot they have. They must have about 15,000 men; which for a division makes 2,000 men. A general of division and two of brigade are enough to command a division of this force.

These corps will have: a marching division which meets at Mainz, for the 1st corps, of nearly 4,000 men, and one for the 2nd corps,[128]

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of nearly 3,000 men. You will make the exact state. I do not think every regiment can provide more than one company.

The first of these divisions has four regiments of march, the second has three: thus seven colonels suffice; there will be as many squadron leaders as there are 250 men, which is about twenty.

Present me this organization in generals of division, colonels, majors, squadrons chiefs, & c. My intention is, as soon as possible, to dissolve these two divisions of march to incorporate them in these two corps; but they may need to fight before, so they must be well organized.

The 3rd corps is composed of four divisions, formed by the squadrons of the thirty-eight regiments of the Spanish army; they wait at Metz; the Duke of Padua will command them.

Present me the project of this organization. It is obvious that the 1st corps and the 2nd corps, each having a division of march, and the deposits having however only provided a company, instead of four at least that the deposits in France must provide, that will give link to the formation of several other regiments of march, as they can provide more than one company.

Present me a report on this that will make me know when we can leave a third and a fourth division.

The fifty-one regiments of the Grand Army must each supply 500 horses, that will make 25,500 men in the army or four divisions of march for the 1st and 2nd corps.

Let me know when we can expect the meeting of the first two divisions at Mainz, that of the third, that of the fourth; the meeting of these four marching divisions will then carry the 1st and 2nd corps to 35 or 40,000 men. It is obvious that as the 1st and the 2nd corps increase, it will be necessary to change the organization by increasing the division; I will do that according to the circumstances.

Thus, for the moment, there is at the Grande Armée only the 1st corps, composed of four divisions; the 2nd corps, of three divisions; the 3rd corps, of four divisions; a walking division of the 1st corps; a walking division of the 2nd corps; then a division of the third corps; then a second division of the 1st corps; line second march division of the 2nd corps; a second division of the 3rd; finally a fourth division of these three corps; which will form[129]

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The observation corps of Italy which took No. 4 of the Grand Army has for cavalry the 19th regiment of chasseurs, the 13th the 14th of hussars, a regiment of Croats; which will make a division of 6 to 7,000 horses. It takes a general of division and two or three of brigade to command this division.

The 1st observation corps of the Rhine, which takes No. 3, has its cavalry formed of the 10th of hussars, a Baden regiment, a Hessian regiment and the Wurtemberg regiment, which makes 5,000 cavalry men. There must be a divisional general and two brigade generals.

Lastly, the cavalry of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps, which takes No. 6, is composed of the 7th Polish Lancers, to which two Polish or foreign regiments have been assembled to form a brigade. A brigadier general will suffice.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19770. - TO CAPTAIN LAPLACE,
EMPEROR'S ORDINANCE OFFICER, IN PARIS:

Paris. March 21, 1813.

Mr. Laplace, my ordinance Officer, meet from Würzburg to Gotba. Travel along the various paths that lead from Würzburg to the Saale; see them in detail, as well as the connections of these paths. Also, take the road that goes from Frankfurt to Gotha via Eisenach. Send me sketches of these paths and positions.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Marquis de Laplace.

19771. - TO COUNT ALDINI,
MINISTER SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, PARIS.

Paris. March 21, 1813.

I beg you to write to my Minister of War of the Kingdom of Italy, to send you every ten days the state of the situation of the army, and to keep you informed of all the operations relating to conscription.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[130]

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19772. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris. March 27, 1813, in the morning.

My son, all the states of situation which we have here bear that the men of cavalry who are in the depots of the army or the corps are in the number of 13,600 men, and that General Bourcier has as yet mounted only 9,000 men ; so there must be another 6,600 men on foot. General Bourcier, however, complains of having no more men at all, and he asks for a marching company of 120 cuirassiers on foot, who arrives from Mainz; he will mount it at once; this is inexplicable. There must be in the regiments and depots of the men on foot whom General Bourcier does not know. Clarify this whole question.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19773. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG

Paris. March 27, 1813

My Son, I receive even a letter of March 22nd. I can hardly see the formation of a 3rd Cavalry Corps. I see that General Bourcier has given 1,300 horses to General Wattier, and that they are not part of either 1st or 2nd Cavalry Corps; so that there are fragmented regiments. This march would destroy everything. Do not waste a moment to dissolve this corps and to have each detachment join their regiment; detach a division on the left, if necessary. It must be assumed that it is absolute to do nothing but to disseminate cavalrymen one by one, instead of bringing together the squadrons or companies which the regiments still have with the army in the same army. division, we will still have regiments. I guess right now you have 7 to 8,000 cavalry men.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19774. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 27, 1813.

My Cousin, the service of the couriers of the army asks to be[131]

done with care and to be directed. Look at this, Count Lavallette, my Director General of Posts.

My intention is that every day, at eight o'clock in the morning, he leaves a messenger for Magdeburg by Wesel; this courier will take orders to General Vandamme, to Osnabruck, and to General Bourcier, at Hanover. A branch line will be detached from Osnabruck, which will go to Bremen, the chief town of the division.

Every day at eight o'clock in the evening he will leave another messenger, who will go through Mainz and Cassel to Magdeburg; the latter will carry the orders to the Duke of Valmy, to the Guard at Frankfort, and from Frankfort, forwarding posts will be sent to Hanau, the Duke of Ragusa, and Wurzburg, to the Prince of the Moskva; from Kassel other dispatchers will be dispatched for the service of the commandant of Erfurt, of my minister at Weimar, and of the commanders and of the administrative officers who are at Leipzig, and vice versa, these will dispatch return couriers on Cassel. By this means news will be received and orders will be given twice a day and in different ways: two stalls will also leave twelve hours apart, one by Mainz and the other by Wesel. Give orders on this and take all the measures to ensure that the dispatchers are sent to the commanders of the corps, to the Duke of Ragusa, to the Prince de la Moskova, and to General Vandamme, with great accuracy and activity. '

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19773. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN VERONA.

Paris, March 21, 1813,

The square is formed indistinctly on all the divisions of a troop in line, parallel or perpendicular to this league, and according to the circumstances and the nature of the ground; There is, following the Ordinance, an instruction on this point, given, I believe, in 1805, which leaves nothing to be desired; but it is important to make it familiar to the troops, and to have the guns close on the third rank, the square being formed and the cavalry seeking to drive it. It is advisable that a company of voltigeurs always have a reserve on which it will rally, when it will not be able to resist a charge being in skirmishers.

The column of attack will always be formed according to the principles of the Ordinance; but, if the line were to go forward in this[132]

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order, the first division, or division of the head of each column, would cross the bayonet, and, having reached the height where the line will have to stop, these same divisions of head will open their fire of two ranks, and the columns will unfold. under the protection of this fire.

I desire in this maneuver more promptness than the regulations indicate, that is to say that each platoon must begin its fire when arriving on the line, and that the guides must be suppressed.

If one were in the case of recovering in the column of attack, the fire being established on all the line, one could likewise do it under the protection of the fire of the divisions of head; but then the chief of each battalion shall inform, by his adjutant-major and his adjutants, the leaders of the platoons of the wings of the movement which they will execute, the rotation to put an end to the fire not to be ordered. The charge must never fight except in the presence of the enemy or the maneuver, and always in the simplest way, it is the most imposing. The instruction on target shooting is good; we must strive to get a lot of shots, individually, and give a little encouragement to the most adroit.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19776. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DE LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE 5th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KOENIGSBORN.

Paris, March 21, 1813.

I receive your letter of the 22nd. You are going too base and you alarm yourself too quickly; you add too much confidence to all the noises. It takes more calm in the direction of military affairs, and before adding belief to the reports must be discussed. All that spies and agents say, without their eyes being seen, is nothing, and often, when they have seen, it is not much.

Why do you think the British want to land in Hamburg? Where are their means? Where is their army? All their efforts are in Portugal. Is it because a lot of buildings are in sight? But we see thousands every day. What I am saying to you is useless, for it is only experience that reduces to the proper value all these relations, which astonish in the beginning.

With coolness and organizing the National Guards of Hamburg, this city could be guarded; and if you had crossed the Elbe to threaten the enemy, who was going to Hamburg, you would have stopped him altogether.

From the minute. Archives of the Empire.[133]

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19777. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL.
GRAND MARECHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 28, 1813.

Make known to the Duke of Istria that he takes measures to have arrived of his person, with his staff and his horses, on April 12th, in Gotha; that at that time all the cavalry of the Guard, commanded by Colonel Lion, and that which is at Frankfurt, will be united at Gotha.

The ordinance officer of the Guard, the surgeons, all that compose the staff and the administration, must be returned to Frankfurt on the 5th of April. It is also necessary that General Walther be returned to Frankfurt on the 2nd; immediately after his arrival, he will send General Lefebvre to Gotha.

Also write to the Duke of Istria to complete the arrangement of the 5,000 horses he will have in Gotha from 10 to 12 April. He will ensure that all the necessary generals, majors and squadron leaders are present, and he will determine those who must remain in Paris to complete the training and equipment of the cavalry. General Michel and General Curial will remain in Paris until further notice. It is necessary to decide which is the majority of the light horses and the chasseurs who will remain in Paris. As for the dragoons and grenadiers, it seems to me that there is no need for a major; it will be enough for a captain or a squadron commander to order their deposits. It is fitting that General Colbert should be in the army on the 15th; but then who will replace it here? It is necessary to hasten to complete all that is necessary to appoint to the vacant posts, and to give money, so that it is only necessary to execute.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19778. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG

Paris, March 28, 1813.

My son, it appears, by letters sent from Cracow by M. Bignon, that the Russians have a corps of 40,000 men opposite the Poles and Austrians, a division opposite Modlin, a division He saw Zamosc, and another division opposite Thorn; they also have about 40,000 men, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, near Danzig, whence the garrison makes frequent sorties; thus it is impossible for the enemy to be in force within range of the Oder.[134]

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Here is currently what will be on this side or position on 1 April. The prince of the Moskova is, with three of his divisions, at Wurzburg, and two divisions are set in motion by Friedberg and Hanau for Fulde; the Bavarians arrive at Bamberg; thus, on the date of the first week of April, the Prince of Moskova, with one hundred pieces of cannon and 40,000 men, may be within reach of the Saale. The Duke of Baguse is at Hanau, with three divisions, and by the 10th of April one of these divisions will be able to march on Erfurt. The 1st division of the corps of Italy, commanded by General Morand, will be before April 15th at Nuremberg.

I long to know that General Reynier has taken the command of Dresden, and repaired, as far as possible, the errors of Prince Eckmühl. I am also anxious to learn that Wittenberg has guns and is in a position to defend himself; I guess you. have given clear instructions on this position to leave nothing to the arbitrariness of the commander. All that Marshal has done in Dresden and in retreat proves that he has the most erroneous and foolish ideas of war.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S, A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19779. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG,

Paris, March 28, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 23rd. You may take a line as wide as you like in front of Magdeburg, since, by pressing your right in front of Dessau, and your left at the mouth of the Plauen Canal, your line would be but fourteen leagues, and your center would be six leagues from Magdeburg; by bringing your center three leagues from Magdeburg, the line which follows the Elbe upstream and downstream would be only six or seven leagues, unless the enemy comes to be placed with a strong army in front of them. But what I do not think you can do, you will occupy an entrenched camp, leaning on the Elbe, the left on the Plauen Canal, and the right in position ahead of Dessau. By going back and forth on either of these points, you will have direct and fast communication independently of the one in Magdeburg,

The occupation of the mouth of the Plauen Canal is the best way to cancel all boats in this canal. We[135]

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could even establish a bridgehead on the right bank of this canal, so as to give passage to walk on the Havel. You will thus have as three bridgeheads: one to three or four leagues ahead of Magdeburg, which will be your main camp, another on the right bank in front of Dessau, or a similar position, and a third at the mouth of the Plauen canal. By this means, in the event of an attack, all the troops on your right who defend the left bank will emerge by the bridgehead in front of Dessau, and all those on your left will lead to the bridgehead of the mouth. the Plauen Canal to join you. Thus, regardless of your eight divisions, you would be fortified by all the bodies that defend the Elbe, upstream and downstream. So I think, in summary, that you must choose a battlefield three or four leagues ahead of Magdeburg and set up your camp there, with the care of choosing a healthy place. You will cover yourself with some redoubts; but they must be spaced so that one can maneuver between them. Establish a bridgehead at Dessau, with a back and forth, until a bridge has been built. Also establish a beachhead at the mouth of the Plauen Canal, also with a back and forth. You will have the line of your outposts from the Plauen Canal to Dessau, following the rope; they will be cut off with redoubts or palisades to be safe from light cavalry. This will give you a space of seven to eight leagues in depth, and twelve or fifteen in front. Your left is no longer at a walk from the Havel, and your right is a march from Wittenberg.

Choose mostly a field that is healthy. Consult the doctors and the inhabitants of the country; do not admit any modification. If you are near swamps or flooded meadows, whatever you may say is an unhealthy place - you have to climb. You feel that in a month's stay in the spring I will lose my army. I want you to consult doctors less than your common sense and the people. The land seems cut and woody; so that there must be only a certain number of outlets and roads. You could also occupy the kind of delta formed by the canal by throwing yourself into the Elbe, and by establishing works and barracks there; this will not only disturb the enemy who is moving on Hamburg. This must not prevent you from doing on the left bank of strong detachments of cavalry and infantry, with artillery, in order to reject in the Elbe the enemy parties which have passed the[136]

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river, and favor the movements of Generals Morand, Saint-Cyr and Vandamme.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchteuberg.

19780. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GRAND ARMY, WALKING ON AUGSBURG.

Paris, March 28, 1813.

Count Bertrand, have your 1st Division continue on Nuremberg, where I wish it to have arrived before April 15th. Also head to Nuremberg for all your cavalry. You will be heading your 4th Division, which is, I believe, the second in the order of march, on Anspach. The third will be in Ingolstadt and Neuburg, and the one in the tail of the column will be in Augsburg. If you are having too much trouble, bring some of your unloaded boxes, and tie them with the horses you buy in Augsburg or Bamberg. I give orders to direct on Bamberg the twenty-two pieces of artillery which are to be sent to you from France to carry the artillery of your corps to ninety-two guns.

I give an order that, from the 1st of April, a courier depart daily from Paris for Augsburg, and that he also come every day from Augsburg to Paris, all the time that your headquarters will be at Augsburg.

Send exactly your states of situation to the Prince of Neuchâtel, who has been reestablished and who has resumed his duties as Major General, and make known in great detail all your needs and the situation of your corps. It is necessary that all colonels, majors, second majors and battalion chiefs be at their posts; propose me the replacement of all those who will not be there under any pretext whatsoever. I suppose that artillery General Taviel has finally arrived at your corps. I repeat to you, bring by requisition, and by an accelerated movement, the two hundred and forty-six caissons which are for your corps at Plaisance, and prepare at Augshurg and Nuremberg the horses, the harnesses and all that is necessary for that these caissons can serve you.

Arrange for the 1st Brigade of your troops to arrive on the 12th at Nuremberg; it is convenient for you to carry your headquarters there or on the 13th at the latest.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.[137]

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19781. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris. March 28, 1813.

I received your letter of the 22nd in which you let me know that on the 26th you will have headquarters in Würzburg. Send the light cavalry on the Verra to Meiningen, with the Souham division. The headquarters of the division will be in Meiningen. General Souham will light the Weimar road with light cavalry. Push your 2nd division on Schweinfurt, your park on Würzburg, your 3rd division on Eisenach, the 4th on Vacha. All these provisions are intended to put your corps in a position to be on the Mulde, in order to cover Leipzig, or at least on the Saale. It will also have the advantage of giving place to Hanau and Friedberg for the 2nd observation corps of the Rhine, which increases a lot. If the enemy passes the Elbe at Dresden, and in the movement you make on the Saale, General de Wrede will be able to go on Schleiz and Saalfeld, and thus find himself on the right. The King of Saxony kept his cuirassiers at Plauen; if the enemy vanguard corps passed the Elbe in or near Dresden, while you were marching on the Saale, you would write to try to use these cuirassiers and to increase your cavalry.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19782, - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris, March 28, 1813.

The prince of Eckmühl blew up the bridge of Dresden, which greatly inconvenienced the inhabitants, and at the same time attracted the enemy, who had gone away on these sides. The vice-vice assembled all his troops on Wittenberg, Magdeburg and Lower Elbe. On the 23rd he made a reconnaissance at the head of his troops two steps ahead of Magdeburg, on the road to Berlin; he knew nothing, and met only a hundred Cossacks. I suppose you sent officers to Dresden to be informed of everything that's going on.

Prussia raised the standard and declared war on us.

General Wittgenstein only entered Berlin with 6,000 infantrymen. The Russians are not in force on the Oder; they have only partisans and avant-gardes between the Oder and the Elbe,

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do not believe them even in situation of passing the Oder in strength. They have 40,000 men before Danzig, whose garrison makes daily vigorous outings and kills many people. One of their divisions blocks Thorn, another is in Warsaw and in front of Modlin, where they lost 1,500 men in three attacks. They tried to overthrow Zamosc, and lost 300 men there. They have a corps of 30,000 men between Pilica and Krakow, in front of the Austrians and the Poles. I do not suppose, as I have already said, that the enemy will be able to cross the Oder with considerable force.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19783, - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE. 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HANAC

Paris, March 28, 1813.

Cousin, as Bonet's division will be ready as soon as possible, place it in a column on the road from Hanau to Erfurt, my intention being that it will meet at Fulde, as soon as the 4th division of the Prince of the Moskva has passed, The 2nd Division will then meet at Hanau, and the 3rd at Friedberg. As your 4th division will be organizing for a long time, and there are still only three or four battalions, bring them together, under the orders of a general of division or a brigadier general, to the limit. of the Duchy of Nassau, of the Grand Duchy of Berg, and of the Kingdom of Westphalia, so that this forms a kind of reserve for containing these cantons,

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Mr. Charavay.

19784. - TO THE COUNT OF MONTALIVET, MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 29, 1813.

You must order all the authorities of the departments of Bouches-de-l'Elbe, Weser and Ems to remain at their posts; and, although these departments are put in a state of siege, it only means that the military authority will take the police; but this must not stop the march of administrative authority.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[139]

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19785. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. March 29, 1813.

You must inform the King of Spain that the whole army of Spain must live in the country; that this principle has no other exception than the twenty-four millions which I grant to him in return for pay. The army of Catalonia is included in these twenty-four millions.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19786. - TO MARSCHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Paris, March 29, 1813.

My Cousin, it is necessary that you cut the march from Mainz to Frankfurt in two, because we complain, and that the corps, leaving very late from Mayence, arrive too late at Frankfort, and that it is It is also a matter of principle to start the marches with short days.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

19787, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, March 29, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 24th. It is probable that General Vandamme will have enough to do to contain the insurrection and the coasts. The prince of Eckmühl, with the 1st division and a little cavalry, to whom you could join the Saxon regiment which was in Pomerania, is in charge of forming two divisions to occupy the coasts of Lower Elbe.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. Pal 'S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,

19788, - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris, March 29, 1813.

I receive your letter of the 24th, where I see that your 3rd and 4th divisions are already in the direction of Würzburg. I told you yesterday about[140]

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to direct them to Eisenach, but you are perfectly in charge of directing them to Wurzburg, if you find it more useful. My main goal is for your corps to approach the Mulde to cover Leipzig, or at least the Saale to cover Weimar; but for that he must have his artillery.

The news I receive from Dresden, of the 21st, is that General Durutte has made a convention with the chief of some Cossacks, and delivered to them the part of the city which is on the right; we will attack only after being informed twenty-four hours in advance.

As General Souham does not know the war with the Russians, give him very detailed instructions, so that arriving at Meiningen the vanguard of cavalry which he will send on the side of Weimar has artillery pieces and two battalions of voltigeurs.

I'm surprised you do not have a payer yet.

If you lead the 3rd and 4th divisions on Würzburg, you will have to lead your 1st division on Weimar and your 2nd on Meiningen, so that the 3rd and 4th are in column on. Würzburg. In this case, tell the Duke of Ragusa, to lead the Bonet division on Eisenach and Vacha, and the Compans division on Fulde.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19789. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS At MAYENCE.

Paris. March 30, 1813.

Cousin, you will find attached the decree I signed this morning for the supply of wood from Kastel and Mainz. Communicate it to the prefect and have it started. I intend to have in Mainz not only the woods for Kastel, but also those necessary for all the rest of Mainz. See the engineers, and if what I grant is not enough, I will draw all the necessary supplements from my forests and those near the Rhine. Do the same for Wesel and Kehl. I do not want to buy the woods, but take them in my forests and require them.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.[141]

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19790. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 31, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Feltre, I receive and read with the greatest interest the work of the 30th of March, which you gave me on the army; this work seems to me done with as much intelligence as care: testify my satisfaction to the office of the movement.

It results from this work that fifty-six battalions or 41,000 men are destined to form garrison battalions of the military divisions. My intention is not to organize these battalions; therefore, we must not interfere in anything, and take these men to complete the active army; it is only a note to be kept, according to the circumstances, to be able to provide garrisons to the places that need it. All these men must be considered as available to the depots, and they should be used to supplement the battalions of war.

I also see in these states that I destined the twenty-eight battalions of the Grand Army to form the 1st and 4th divisions, and the twenty-eight 4th battalions to form the 2nd and 5th divisions; that finally I destined the twenty-eight 3rd battalions to form temporary demi-brigades. I change this last disposition, and I intend these twenty-eight 3rd battalions to form the 3rd and 6th divisions of the Grand Army.

There remain the twenty-eight 1st battalions; I did not dispose of it because I did not think I could complete it. However, it follows from your work that there is something to complement them; that being so, here is how you must act; the companies which are in the places of the Oder will take numbers in the 5th battalions, and the companies of the 5th battalions will take numbers in the 1st; By this means, I will have in France all the 1st complete battalions. My intention is then to send these 1st battalions before the 3rd.

Each regiment will thus have four battalions at the Grande Armée and one or two companies of the 5th battalion in the squares; he will remain in France two companies of the 5th battalion. That being so, the 1st corps, which has sixteen regiments, will thus have sixty-four battalions or four divisions of sixteen battalions; the 2nd corps, which has twelve regiments, will have forty-eight battalions or three divisions of sixteen battalions. I only gave the 1st corps of numbers for the 1st 2nd and 3rd divisions; we must give him another number for the 4th division: it will be the 3rd *bis* of the Grande Armée.[142]

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As for the 2nd corps, as it will have only forty-eight battalions, it will form only three divisions, that is to say the 4th, the 5th and the 6th. The 1st Division is now at Magdeburg, with sixteen battalions; the 2nd division is at Osnabrück, with sixteen battalions; the 3rd and 3rd *bis* will be formed at the same time, if it is possible: the 3rd, the 1st and 3rd battalions of eight regiments, the other, the 1st and 3rd battalions of the eight other regiments. The regiments which would have formed their battalions as soon as possible should be formed to form the 3rd division, and for the 3rd *bis* the eight regiments whose battalions will arrive afterwards.

The 4th division is composed of the twelve 2nd battalions of the 2nd corps; it is in Magdeburg.

The 5th division is composed of the 12th 4th battalions of the 2nd corps, which are at Osnabrück.

The 6th division will be composed of the twenty-four 1st and 3rd battalions, which are still in France.

My intention is that these new divisions be formed at Wesel, and that each regiment, as soon as it has detachments ready, either of its 1st or of its 3rd battalion, will send them to Wesel, by taking on the Rhine those who leave a deposit located in the vicinity of this river. General Lemarois will use it either at Wesel or at Münster, until the battalions have arrived and reunited.

As for the formation of definitive divisions, it seems to me useless to deal with it today; they will be trained in the army as soon as it is possible, and as the regiments draw closer, the battalions of the same regiment may be placed together.

I take as an example the 2nd of the line: two companies of his 1st battalion are at Küstrin and will take the number of the 1st and 2nd companies or 5th battalion, and you will take the companies N^os^. 1 and 2 of the 5th Battalion to incorporate them into the 1st ; which will cause me to have the six companies of the 1st battalion. This regiment has its 2nd battalion at the 4th division at Magdeburg; he has his 4th battalion at the 5th division at Osnabrück; he therefore remains in France his 1st and 3rd battalion and two companies of the 5th battalion; but there are still 818 men in its depot, without understanding the conscription of 1814: you can therefore propose to send the 1st battalion completed to 800 men without delay and to direct it to Wesel. He will still remain his 3rd battalion and two companies of the 5th battalion; but he receives 1,000 men from the conscription of 1814: as soon as this conscription of 1814 has arrived, he will be able to provide his 3rd battalion. So I see this regiment, without using conscription[143]

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of 1814, who is still so young, has in the conscription of 1813 and in those of the four years, what to have in the army his 1st, 2nd and 4th complete battalions. If it could send only four companies of the 1st battalion completed to 560 men, it would always be convenient to supply them; that would remain at Wesel in the hands of the governor.

I still take the 4th of line for example: I see that at this regiment there will remain only 500 men; he will not be able to supply his entire 1st battalion, but only three companies, except to complete them successively with what will be his best exercise of the conscription of 1814. I apply these observations to the 12th of the line: I see that he has his 2nd battalion in the 1st division, and Stettin a company of the 1st battalion, which will become the 1st of the 5th; that his 4th battalion must have arrived at Osnabrück with the 2nd division, and that he still has 700 men for his 1st battalion; he can therefore make him leave.

I wish you to continue this reasoning for all the other regiments: it would follow that, without squinting at the conscription of 1814, I would have the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th divisions of the Grand Army complete, and, plus, twenty-eight battalions, at three or four companies each, at Wesel, destined to form the division 3rd *bis* and the 6th division. But would these battalions make together only 14,000 men, that it would always be a fine reserve between the hands of General Lemarois to contain the departments of Lippe and Ems and the environs. As soon as the 4th battalions are gone, propose that I leave the 1st complete battalions, or at least composed of six companies, if they can only have 600 men; four companies, if they can only have 500; finally, of three companies, if they can furnish only 400 men, except to complete them successively. Then the 3rd battalions will remain entirely in France for the provisional demi-brigades, if, in order not to compromise the conscription of 1814, I continued to want to place them in this formation, or to form the 3rd division *bis* and the 6th division, if I prefer to call them to the army.

Give me as soon as possible a job on these hashes; but it is essential to ensure that all the colonels and majors of these regiments exist. All those who are crippled or unable to campaign should not be counted; we must put them in a row.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[144]

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19791. - AT GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, March 31, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, you will inform General Lemarois that General Loison will no longer go to the 25th Division; that, consequently, it is to him, Lemarois, that I entrusted the command of this division, and that I add to it the government of Wesel, whose armament and supply it will have to heal; that my intention is, that if ever the enemy approaches this place, he confines himself to defend it; that the case will surely not happen, but finally that he must take all the appropriate measures; that he must hold a brigadier general at Münsler; that he still retains the superior command of the Grand Duchy of Berg; that he will finally receive orders from the duke of Valmy.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19792, - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris, April 1st, 1813.

Duke of Bassano, you will find attached letters from General Durutte and General Saxon Lecoq; you will see the conduct of this last general; General Thielmann also refused the necessary artillery to arm Wittenberg. I wish you to make an official note in the day to M. de Just (1) to show him how much all these difficulties annoy me and discontent me. Send a letter to M. de Serra (2): you will tell him that I am surprised that he does not give me an account of all this, and that he does nothing to raise these difficulties; that you should receive letters from him twice a day; that he should teach you all news and even noises, while he does not write to you. Order him to have a clear explanation and finish all these difficulties.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

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1) Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Saxony.
2) French Minister in Dresden.[145]

19793. - TO THE BARON OF THE BOUILLERIE, GENERAL TREASURER CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAIN, IN PARIS,

Paris. April 1st, 1813.

You will take thirty millions in gold from the treasury of the extraordinary estate; you will put twenty in the treasure of the crown, in place of the twenty that have been removed; you will keep the ten others, which you will only have on my orders. On these ten minions, you will hold two millions at the disposal of the grand marshal, to continue the advances to be made to the Guard to accelerate his various works; you will send two more in gold for Mainz, with a payer, to be at my disposal after the headquarters; finally, you will keep the six others, whose destination I will make known to you.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19794. - TO GENEAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Paris, April 2nd, 1813.

Duke of Feltre, the line of operation of the year of the Elbe is by Wesel. Accordingly, order that the double supply, and all the artillery detachments destined for this army, as well as the convoys of powder and arms, & c, be directed by Wesel, and thence on Magdeburg. Give the same order for isolated men and for all that has the destination.

The Army of the Main, on the contrary, will have its line of operation on Mainz.

I have ordered that all the effects of clothing, equipment and harness which are for General Bourcier, be sent on Wesel, and from there on Hanover,

In short, Wesel is the operating line of the corp of the Elbe.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

19795. - TO THE GENERAL CLARKE DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, April 2, 1813,

Mr. Duke de Feltre, I wrote to you yesterday to let you know my intentions, after reading your work of March 30,[146]

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containing all the information I asked about the infantry of the army.

I have informed you that I wished the 1st battalions of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army to be completed to six companies, provided that one or two companies of the 5th battalions were incorporated, and that the companies which they had in the places of the Oder would be considered known belonging to the 5th battalions. That being the case, there would still be the 1st and 3rd battalions of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army to send.

My intention is that you give the order that four companies of the 1st battalions of each of these regiments, the well-completed cadres, and the four companies brought to 500 men with what remains of the conscription of 1813 and the four years, leave without time to meet at Wesel; which will make twenty-eight battalions of 500 men or 11,000 men.

However, you will temporarily direct eight of these battalions (those closest to Utrecht, that is to say those whose depots are in the 24th and the 16th Military Division) temporarily on Utrecht, so as not to overburden Wesel, and you will classify them under the name 1st brigade of the 3rd division and 1st brigade of the 6th division. Appoint two colonels second to command each of these two brigades, and recommend to General Molitor to put his care into the exercise of this troop. These two brigades, joined to the seven fourth battalions which are at Utrecht, will make a force of 7 to 8,000 men, which will reassure Holland. It only takes a few days to effect this movement, and I wish you to send your orders by an extraordinary courier.

There will therefore remain twelve battalions of the 1st corps and eight battalions of the 2nd which will meet at Wesel, Order General Lemarois to place them at Wesel, Münster and in the Grand Duchy of Berg.

The battalions of the 1st corps will form a brigade, which will be the 2nd of the 3rd division.

The eight battalions of the 2nd corps will form another brigade, which will be the 2nd of the 6th division.

General Lemarois will put them under the orders of a brigadier general, who will take care of their instruction. It is especially necessary that all the battalion commanders be at their corps.

As soon as the 5th and 6th companies of these four battalions will be able to leave, which can only be after they have received the conscription of 1814, they will be put in motion to complete their battalions.[147]

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At any event, these 14,000 men would be destined to furnish the garrison of Wesel, and they must not, without your special order, leave under the orders of General Lemarois, who could even employ them to form the garrisons of the forts of Grave and Venlo. If circumstances demanded it, he might even withdraw some battalions to contain the Grand Duchy of Berg.

I have informed you that my intention was also to direct the twenty-eight battalions to Wesel, when the conscription of 1814 completed them; they will form new divisions at the Grande Armée. But as this movement can not take place until mid-May, circumstances will decide what it will be appropriate to do then. In the meantime, there is no problem in leaving these battalions as if they were to form provisional brigades.

DIVISION OF HAMBURG.

The 32nd military division being sufficiently packed, I think that it is necessary to give counter-order to the formation of the 3rd battalions of the united divisions, seeing that it puts too much disorder and complication in the corps. A large number of companies are en route; they must all be assembled at Wesel, and make as many battalions as there will be six companies, and as soon as these companies are formed at Wesel, I shall be informed of them so that I may direct them to the provisional regiments, who are at the Grande Armée, in order to reinforce all these regiments and to be able to dissolve the battalions formed at Wesel. You will present to me a plan for the dislocation of these battalions of Wesel, and at the same time you will propose to me to send from the depots all that is available to send these detachments directly to Mainz, and from there to the corps of the Great Army that they must strengthen. For example, the 2nd Light Infantry, who is in Paris, instead of reinforcing the 70 men's detachment at Wesel, would directly send 150 men from the four-year conscription to the provisional regiment to which he had supplied. a battalion.

The division of Hamburg will remain composed of three battalions of the 3rd of line, namely: the 6th, the 3rd, the 4th; three battalions of the 29th line, namely: the 3rd, the 4th, the 2nd; and finally two battalions of the 105th, namely: the 3rd and the 4th; total, eight battalions.

The companies which these regiments have at Danzig will be carried into the 5th battalion, so that the battalions which they have in the division of Hamburg have their six companies.

As soon as possible, you will send these eight battalions[148]

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of all the facilities which the course of the Rhine can give to their route.

31st DIVISION

The 123rd regiment will have in the division of Erfurt its 1st, 2nd and 4th battalions; total, three battalions. The 124th will have in the same division its 1st, 2nd and 3rd battalions; total, three battalions. The 127th will have its 1st and 2nd battalions; total, two battalions. The 128th will have its 1st and 2nd battalions; total, two battalions. Finally the 129th will have to the same division its 1st and 2nd battalions. Grand total, twelve battalions.

The battalions which these regiments have at the 31st division, at Spandau and at Küstrin, will be provided for, but, in order that these regiments may furnish twelve battalions, there will be a shortage of 4,000 men, and to know whether it is expedient to give them, I would like a special magazine to be sent to their depots to let me know the consistency of their executives and what there is to hope. If they are good and complete in officers and non-commissioned officers, I would not trouble to provide these 4,000 men with what the Guard will not use from the 1814 conscription.

32nd DIVISION

The 32nd division is composed of the 131st, 132nd, 133rd line and the 36th light. These regiments have only one battalion at their division. At this moment they have at Mainz the cadres of their 4th battalions, who arrived on the 16th of March, and were kept in this place to receive detachments of conscripts from their depots, destined to complete them; the cadre of the 4th battalion of the 133rd found at Mainz the conscripts who deprived him of the necessary, and the conscripts destined for the other three cadres must arrive from the 6th to the 7th of April; these four battalions will be reorganized at that time.

Four other cadres, those of the battalions who left Dresden on the 1st of May, must be very near to reach Mainz; but no measure has yet been taken to complete these last cadres in Mainz; it must be provided.

It is my intention that the four battalions which are at present at Mainz be united under the command of a second-in-command, placed on the confines of the Grand Duchy of Berg, the Kingdom of Westphalia, and the County of Nassau. and that successively the four other battalions meet there in such a way as to reform division on this point.[149]

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GARRISON BATTALIONS.

Garrison battalions must be ignored; it will be what he can, according to the circumstances. It is not necessary to make a displacement, but only to note in the states that there remain in such a division so many men, who could be assembled to throw in the places as a garrison, as circumstances might require; That'll do; but we must not organize anything in advance, since this can change at any moment.

PROVISIONAL HALF BRIGADES.

Having resolved to raise the National Guards of the 6th arrondissement, I will charge them with the defense of my shipyards. I would need at least sixteen good battalions to form the Utrecht camp, since all that is there today will strengthen the regiments and the cadres will return to the depots.

Vlissingen will be guarded by the 1st battalion of the 131st.

Antwerp will be guarded by the 5th battalions and 3,000 men of national guards.

Cherbourg will be guarded by the 5th battalions, by the 5th battalion of the 5th light and by 3,000 men of national guards.

For Brittany, the 3rd and 4th battalions of the 4th, 7th, 15th, 86th and 70th regiments will be completed; which will make 6,000 men. There will be, in addition, the marine battalion there and national guards. It will also employ battalions of the 121st and 122nd which entered the formation of provisional demi-brigades intended primarily for the defense of this point.

The refractory conscripts, the 5th battalions and the national guards will also be sufficient for the island of Aix, La Rochelle and Rochefort.

The 5th battalions and national guards will also be sufficient for Toulon.

These measures will make available to me six battalions of light infantry and twenty-nine of infantry of line; total, thirty-five battalions, who will be able to form a reserve at Mainz. This reserve, with the division of Erfurt, will make three divisions of sixteen battalions each. It will be a beautiful army corps, which will be called *Corps de Reserve*.

This reserve will be increased to five divisions when the twenty-eight battalions are assembled at Wesel, and it may then extend insensibly all over Germany, and all these regiments will only supply conscripts of 814, who will be formed, in temporary half-brigades of two or three battalions. In case of event, this reserve[150]

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would provide garrisons to all my strongholds. Let me know if there are other cadres of battalions returning from Spain that can be placed in this reserve.

SOME REGIMENTS THAT ARE NOT EMPLOYED.

The 113th was to have two battalions at the observation corps of Mainz; all that this regiment has at Danzig must be counted as belonging to the 5th battalion, and it must be completed entirely with companies drawn from the 5th battalion, its 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th battalions, if there are sufficient officers for all these cadres, if not to suppress the 6th battalion and reorganize only the first four. These four battalions will, when they are well trained, be directed on the army.

The 29th Light has two battalions at the 1st Rhine Observation Corps; Can the 3rd and 4th Battalion also be sent there?

The two battalions of the 44th, 5th, 43rd and 55th are, I believe, all destined for the 4th Division of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps. It seems to me that these cadres have been newly formed; for if they had been old, it would have been convenient to have completed them at once at Mayence with what would have been available to four-year conscripts in some neighboring regiment.

The 8th and 18th light infantry must have their 2nd battalions completed and united at Mainz: a provisional regiment could be formed which would be attached to the 4th Division of the 2nd Rhine Observation Corps; the two other battalions of these regiments, to be completed with the conscription of 1814, would follow after their destination.

There are in the 5th, 11th, 79th and 81st of line 12 to 1500 conscripts of the four years that can be withdrawn to direct them to Mainz, where it would be used to complete the provisional regiments or regiments formed of cohorts that would be the weakest.

I made known to you my intentions for the regiments of the navy; I have also made known to you my intentions so that what is available at the depots of the different cohort regiments join these regiments and go to Mainz.

CORPS OF ITALY.

The six regiments in Italy must each have three battalions in addition to their depot battalion. It is necessary that you make sure that Colonel and Major are present, and that you submit to my nomination the proposals for all vacant places.[151]

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These eighteen battalions with those of the 112th, with those left for the guard of Piedmont and Rome, and what the Italian kingdom can supply, will make forty or fifty battalions towards the month of September; which could be of great use.

LEVYS OF THE FOUR YEAR.

I have just raised 80,000 men; my intention is that they should be distributed throughout the Empire, but that Holland, the 32nd Military Division, and the departments of Italy should be put in reserve; which will reduce the current levy to 60,000 men.

Here is the job I intend to do with these 60,000 men. 24,000, the nearest to Paris and Mainz, will be taken for my Guard, which, with the 6,000 conscription of 1814, will make 30,000 men, with whom I will recruit sixteen regiments of the young Guard. .

For the rest, I wish that the regiments of the 1st division should have their 5th complete battalions; Secondly, that all the cadres coming from Spain, and for whom the conscription of 1814 would not be sufficient, should be completed.

The conscription of 1814 furnished 12,000 men to the Guard; but as the Guard only takes 6,000 men on this conscription, 6,000 men will become available, and may be added to the regiments which will need them. The important thing is that you propose to me to pour this raised in good frameworks; I would gladly pour it into regiments composed of cohorts, but I think that the administration is little experienced and that the cadres are new.

Finally, the 120th, the 119th, the 118th, the 117th, the 116th, the 115th and the 114th, which have their deposits near the Pyrenees, and are especially intended to recruit the army of Spain, the 143rd, the 34th light and the 31st must be worn to their full extent, so that it can form a good reserve for Bayonne and for the army of Spain.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19796. - To EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, April 2nd, 1813.

My Son, I have ordered that everything sent to you, detachments, clothing, artillery, etc., should be directed by Wesel, so it must be on Wesel that you send for[152]

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everything you need. Let the intendant and general of artillery know. Everything you send to France must also go through Wesel, as well as everything you receive from it.

I ordered that the companies which the 1st battalions of the twenty-eight regiments of the Grand Army have in the places of the Oder were henceforth included in the 5th battalion and replaced in the 1st battalion by companies drawn from the 5th.

Independently of the twenty-eight 4th battalions, forming the 2nd and 5th divisions, which Generals Dumonceau and Dufour command under General Vandamme, who is already at Bremen, two new divisions, composed of the 1st battalions of the same twenty-eight regiments, set out for Wesel, and in the course of May they will be followed by two other divisions, composed of the 3rd battalions of these regiments.

Thus the 1st corps will have: its 1st division composed of sixteen 2nd battalions; his 2nd division, of sixteen 4th battalions; his 3rd division, of sixteen 1st battalions; and its 4th division, which will be the 3rd *bis* of the Grand Army, composed of sixteen battalions, in all sixty-four battalions. You feel that as soon as you can, the regiments will have to be united, and each division will then be composed of four regiments, as before the campaign. Note that out of these sixty-four battalions, the sixteen of the 1st division are on the Elbe, the sixteen of the 2nd division have already passed Wesel, and the sixteen of the 3rd division will have passed the Rhine before April 15th. As for the sixteen of the third division *bis*, it will be hardly before the end of May that they will enter Germany.

The 2nd corps will have: the 4th division, composed of its twelve 2nd battalions, which are at Magdeburg, the 5th division, composed of its twelve 4th battalions, which overtook Wesel, and the 6th division, composed of its twelve 1st battalions, which are currently marching on Wesel; finally, its twelve third battalions, which will be incorporated in the three divisions. When we can, we will train each division with three regiments. It follows that at this moment the sixteen battalions of the 2nd division, the twelve battalions of the 5th, the sixteen battalions of the 3rd and the twelve battalions of the 6th, in all fifty-six battalions, are en route for the 32nd. military division, plus the Hamburg brigade, composed of five battalions drawn from the 3rd, 105th and 29th; which brings this corps to sixty-one battalions.

I sent General Lemarois to Wesel to command the place and the entire 25th Military Division.

The English do not have a man to land; all their efforts[153]

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are in Portugal and in Canada. The Swedes will probably take care of Pomerania.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19797. - TO THE GENERAL COMTE FONTANELLI,
MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, MILAN.

Paris. April 2, 1813.

I wish you to send me the state of the situation of my army of the kingdom of Italy on the 1st of April. You will let me know where each battalion of each regiment is, distinguishing those who were part of the 4th Corps of the Grand Army, and whose remains of cadres must have returned to Italy to reform; the six battalions still in Grenier division and in good condition; lastly, the battalions which are part of the observation corps of Italy under the orders of General Count Bertrand. There are 13 of them, and there are six in the Grenier division, so there are nineteen Italian battalions at the Grande Armée. I desire that you may send to the observation corps of Italy three other battalions, so as to bring its Italian division to sixteen battalions. To this end, you will take the three early battalions ready. It seems to me that it had already been agreed to take the two battalions of the guard of Milan. Regardless of this, there are the battalions who were in the 4th corps who returned to Italy and who are to be reformed. By means of this increase of three battalions, there would be twenty-two Italian battalions at the Grande Armée, that is to say the value of four regiments and a half. You will let me know what is in Spain and all that will remain in Italy, as well as the means that you have to reform the cadres, and the means that you have in soldiers to replenish them. You will also let me know how many battalions will be organized in Italy at the end of May or in June, not counting the 5th battalions. There will probably be an incomplete picture from the great losses experienced at the Grand Army. Let me know what are the means that exist to provide this incomplete.

The army of Italy will thus be divided into three fractions: 1st, that which is at the Grande Armee; 2nd, what is to the army of Spain; 3rd the remaining troops in Italy This last fraction will be subdivided in two, putting in the second part what will be in the island of Elba, Corfu and Ragusa.

For cavalry regiments, there are two regiments of dragoons;[154]

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one is already gone, as well as a regiment of chasseurs. There remained some executives and some companies of the other regiments which were in the 4th corps; it's about reforming them. Let me know when these regiments will be, and when he can leave for the Grand Army two new regiments of cavalry, one of chasseurs and one of dragoons; so that there is at the Grande Armée. five regiments of Italian cavalry, namely, two of dragoons and three of chasseurs, including the 4th of chasseurs, where the detachments of all the other regiments will be united. There will remain in Italy a regiment of chasseurs. Let me know, at the same time, how many men and horses have produced the voluntary donations and what was their use. The state of the cavalry of the kingdom of Italy being four regiments of chasseurs and two of dragoons, that makes 6,000 men. We can count that there are 3,000 at the Grande Armée, including the observation corps of Italy: there will therefore still be 2,000 men to supply to the Grande Armée.

Present me also in the same form the states for the artillery. Finally, report to me on the guard, to inform me of the means of beginning its reorganization.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19798. - TO THE GENERAL COMTE FONTANELLI,
MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, MILAN.

Paris, April 2nd, 1813.

I told you in what state I wished to have a report on the situation of my army of Italy on the 1st of April. I wish to have in the course of June two. French divisions of sixteen battalions each, namely: eighteen battalions of the six regiments which reformed in Italy, at the rate of three battalions per regiment, thirteen battalions which will come from Piedmont, and a battalion of the 112th; which makes thirty-two battalions; and a 3rd Italian division, also of sixteen battalions; two regiments of Italian cavalry and a French regiment, making 3,000 horses; finally, the artillery necessary for this corps d'armee, which will be 40 or 50,000 men, without counting all the 5th battalions which will keep garrison in the places. Give me a report on how to achieve this result. The six French regiments must already be numerous, and they will be completed by means of the new conscription that I raise. We will provide insensibly to the cadres.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[155]

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19799. - TO THE COUNT DE MONTALIVET,
MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, IN PARIS.

Paris. April 3, 1813,

The School of Medicine remains a long time without being finished, present me a project to complete the place and the galleries that complete this ensemble; it will be possible to employ 500,000 francs in order to complete all this year.

From the copy, Archives of the Empire.

19800. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. April 4, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I send you the correspondence.

Introduce me in the day someone to replace the Sieur de Moustier; he seeks to induce me against the king of Wurtemberg by putting his passions in the place of the truth. I find it hard to believe that the king would have held Tachz to inquire into this. If Monsieur de Moustier had missed me so much, he would deserve to be punished. However, it must be replaced. Propose to me his successor, and leave at once.

You will make an official note to the Minister of Württemberg who is here, in which you will inform him: 1st) that in the draft of the contingent there are only three regiments of cavalry instead of four, that two battalions of light infantry at instead of four, and that four regiments of infantry instead of five; that I demand that the 4th Regiment of Cavalry and the 6th Infantry of the Line, of the Royal Prince, be united to this contingent and carry it to 12,000 men; 2nd), that the contingent lacks artillery, and that, if it is for want of material, the king may ask for it, that I will give him all the parts he wishes; 3rd) That I formally desire that at least two regiments of cavalry leave before the 15th of April to rejoin at Wurzburg the corps of the Prince de la Moskova, that it is indispensable, and that the two other regiments arrive there before the end of the month; that I do not allow time on that; that I await this proof of the king's zeal, and that he would not, no doubt, wish to furnish me with his contingent when matters were decided. You will give me a copy of this comparative table of the Württemberg contingent, and you will give me a copy of the contingents of Bavaria, Baden, and Hesse-Darmstadt.[156]

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Pass a note to the Minister of Baden asking for the 2nd Dragoon Regiment; that I need cavalry, and that 500 horses are not indifferent. Give instructions to my charge d'affaires. It must be successful and this regiment be sent to Würzburg. Let it be said in Bavaria, in Stuttgart, and in Baden, that if one needs for the police of the country and to contain the Vorarlberg a brigade of five to six French battalions of my reserve, forming 4 to 5,000 men, I give them to them. will provide; I will pay the balance; they will only be bound to feed them; that it is easy for me, seeing that I have a strong reserve for any event.

I suppose that you have passed to M. de Just the note which I have ordered you. The correspondence of M. de Serra does not satisfy me: he does not show the activity that would be necessary in these circumstances, and he did not do what was necessary to prevent the Saxon military from disobeying. I am now waiting for more zeal on his part. Ask by a courier that all the Saxon cavalry accompanying the king be placed at the disposal of the Prince of the Moskva, that these 1,200 horses will do us the greatest good and are useless to the king.

Write to M. de Saint-Marsan that he should return at once. Give me an account of the couriers sent by M. de Krusemark; I had forbidden you to give him passports; however, I see that he has shipped a lot. M. de Krusemark must leave before Monday; he is a spy whom it is useless to have here. Leaks before leaving your mail to call back Mr. de Saint-Marsan. You can let the secretary of the Legation go to Strasbourg; but you will give orders to be detained in Strasbourg. In the last conference which you will have with M. de Krusemark, say that M. de Hardenberg does not keep any of his promises, that he has promised that no one will would write nothing, and yet much has been written; that it seems that the king is no longer master of anything. I want to see that Monday, at noon, he is gone.

Leaks a circular to my ministers in Confederation by sending them the *Moniteur*, so that they communicate it officially, and that the ministers of Prussia are sent back.

Write to Karlsruhe to stop this spy which is reported from Weimar.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives

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(1) See Exhibit No. 19792.

(2) M. Krusemark, Prussian Minister at Paris.[157]

1980. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN PARIS.

Paris. April 4, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, you will find attached a letter from General Durotte. It is incredible that the King of Saxony thus abandons his country to a few Cossacks and does not use his cavalry, which could defend him. The Saxons behave very badly. Ask that this Saxon regiment, if it has not joined the Durutte division, join at least the prince of the Moskva.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19802. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. April 4, 1813.

Not only do I approve your conclusions in order not to raise the conscription in Holland, but I wish you to write to all the prefects of the 17th and 32nd Divisions, Home and Tuscany, that I have reserved the portion which they were to furnish in the 80,000 men whom I must raise, and that I am ready to exempt the combined departments. As for Piedmont, this measure will have to be suspended.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19803, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris. April 4, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Feltre, it is my intention that a second observation corps from Italy, which will meet in Verona, be prepared for June 1st. This corps will be composed of 1st) twenty-four battalions of the six regiments of the Grand Army; 2nd) of the 6th battalion of the 112th line; two Croatian battalions; of twelve battalions drawn from the battalions which form part of the provisional demi-brigades which are formed of the Piedmontese who are of the conscription of 1814; four elite battalions, two from each foreign regiment; from the rest of Naples continue; the 8th Battalion of the 14th Light; of the 8th battalion of the 6th line. This will make three divisions, each of three brigades, or forty-eight battalions; plus a division of the army of Italy, of sixteen battalions; total, sixty-four battalions.[158]

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Cavalry. The cavalry will consist of two regiments of Italian light cavalry, two regiments of Neapolitan light cavalry and four squadrons of the 13th, 14th of hussars and 19th of chasseurs (the last is to be formed); total, 4,000 horses. ,

Artillery. The artillery will be composed of six French divisions, each division consisting of sixteen pieces; two Italian foot divisions; two French horse batteries; an Italian horse battery; two spare batteries, total, French crew, 96 guns; Italian crew, 22 guns in total, 118 guns.

Engineers. The engineers will consist of a company of French sappers and a company of Italian sappers.

Military crews. Six companies will serve 600 wagons in the Comtoise.

Present me all my resources for the formation of this army. The conscription of 1811, which I have just raised, will be used for this purpose.

He will also meet, at the end of May, an observation corps at Wesel and another at Mainz. That of Mainz will be composed of forty-eight battalions recruited by the conscription of 1814, united in provisional regiments and forming three divisions of sixteen battalions each. In the formation of provisional demi-brigades, he enters thirty-five of these battalions; it could also come from Spain; you will understand twelve battalions of the brigade of Erfurt. These forty-eight battalions will be divided among the three divisions.

The cavalry will be formed of three marching divisions of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd corps, composed of what the regiments will be able to make from their depots, that will make 6,000 horsemen.

The corps of Wesel will be composed of the twenty-eight 1st battalions of the Grand Army and the twenty-eight, total, fifty-six. This will form three divisions; know: the 3rd, the 3rd *bis* and the 6th of the Grande Armée.

The cavalry will be composed of a marching division of the 1st corps, formed also of the detachments which the regiments will be able to provide.

The artillery will consist of 92 guns per corps, with a simple supply.

Thus, in the course of June, I shall have three corps composed of young conscripts, which together would contain Germany, and any event would secure the frontiers. National guards[159]

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would keep the coast, with the 5th battalions, except battalions left in Brittany and Italy.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

19804. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN AUGSBURG.

Paris, April 4th, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I have just read the situation of your 3rd division. It is necessary that you appoint to all the places of officers, so that it lacks none. Since we can not provide you with sub-lieutenants, if you have none, do it for the better; fill in all the places, since you have under-officers: do not expect anything from the minister for the lower ranks, nor a greater number of sub-lieutenants of Fontainebleau than the one announced to you.

I am surprised that the colonel of the 52nd has not arrived yet.

I suppose the two cohort regiments changed those of their effects that were not to the uniform of the line. If they had not done so, order them to make these changes at Nuremberg or Augsburg. Order them to compose their music, and make them have sappers, at the rate of four per battalion, taking care that they are given good axes. Take special care that they provide themselves with good horses or pack mules, to carry the ambulances, the box and the baggage of the officers.

You do not speak to me about brigade generals or warrant officers who are at your corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19805. - TO GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS,
COMMANDING THE 25th MILITARY DIVISION, WESEL.

Paris, April 4th, 1813.

Count Lemarois, General Dombrowski arrives in the Grand Duchy of Berg with 3 to 4,000 men in bad condition; as soon as they have arrived, establish them on a good point, so that these men, well dressed, well fed and well mounted, can enter the field.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Mr. le corn le Lemarois,[160]

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19806. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS,
COMMANDING THE 25th MILITARY DIVISION, IN WESEL.

Paris. April 4, 1813.

Count Lemarois, thirty-six companies supplied by the 5th battalions of the regiments which have a battalion in the 30th division, and ten companies supplied by the 5th battalions of the regiments which compose the 31st division, forming a total of forty-six companies, were to form a division under the title Reserve of the joined divisions. I suppose that twenty-four of these companies have already arrived at Wesel: form four battalions and hold them at Münster, at Wesel, and, if you will, in the Grand Duchy, until you reach me. I sent it to you and sent you new orders, without sending them to the 32nd Military Division, where these fragmented companies would be lost. Of these four battalions one can make a very beautiful reserve for Münster.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. le corn le Lemarois.

19807. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris. April 5, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, it is necessary that you write to all my ministers at the courts of the Confederation to declare war on Prussia and to demand that the ministers of Prussia be dismissed at these various courts. , especially in Frankfurt and Würzburg, where there are so many spies. Recommend that we take care to give them passports for Bohemia, not to pass them through our line of operation.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,

19808. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, April 5th, 1813.

I answer your letter of April 5th. I approve of the measure you propose to incorporate in the artillery of the land sixty officers of the artillery of the navy, chosen from among the best; but this mutation must be made without disorganizing the regiment of this last weapon. I also approve, 1st) that fifty students of[161]

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the Polytechnic School be sent immediately to Metz; 2nd) that a hundred pupils of the School of the Flèche are sent to that of Saint-Cyr to complete their instruction (the hundred students leaving the Flèche will be replaced by after); 3rd) that you grant a hundred posts of officers to such a number of non-commissioned artillery officers. It is necessary that thirty-four pupils of School de Metz and the fifty of the School of Saint-Cyr, who must go out in September and October, leave these schools in May.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19809. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris. April 5, 1813,

I receive your letter of April 1st. I see with pleasure that you are happy with the troops of the Souham and Brenier divisions.

The 2nd battalion of the 29th light has left since five days from Beauvais; It will not be long before you join, Sixteen companies of artillery must arrive from Mugdeburg to Mainz; of these sixteen, there are eight for you. I think, therefore, that your embarrassment must have ceased on this article. The 800 horses of the 10th hussars, which General Laboissiere has, will be augmented by the 400 of the 6th and 600 Squadrons of Baden; which will make 1,800 horses; it is a beginning of forces.

General Dombrowski has been sent to the rear, because he is in very bad condition and needs to be rebuilt. The Viceroy had written to me that he had sent him to the Grand Duchy of Berg; he seems to have changed direction. Bring him near Mürzburg and Aschaffenburg, and let me know what he is missing to put his troops on line.

I strongly approve of all that you say to me in your letter. You must not expose yourself to any retrograde step; but, being very sure of Austria, and, by the information which has come to me, being informed of the forces which the enemy has left before Danzig, Prince Schwarzenberg, and the Oder, I do not believe not that the Russians are in a position to cross the Elbe in great force, I have made known to you that General Bertrand was to have, today 5, his headquarters at Augsburg, and that he will be from the 10th to the 12th at Nuremberg . Match him,

We are a little late for the pontooners; but I give the order that several pontooners and two crews of sailors,[162]

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who made the campaign and were part of the garrison of Pillau who is not a prisoner, and arrive at Erfurt, join you. You can train the bottom of a deck crew.

The movement of General Souham is peculiar to imposing on the enemy, and to make a diversion favorable to the Viceroy.

From the copy, Archives of the Empire.

19810, - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN AUGSBURG.

Paris, April 5th, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I receive your letter of March 30, I have already told you that each ambulance, which must be five caissons, if they are old-style caissons, and six, if they are caissons of the new , must wear dressing cloth and lint for ten thousand wounds, You must have five ambulances; you must therefore have fifty thousand wounds.

Count de Cessac's letter is badly made (1)

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19811. - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HANAU.

Paris, April 5th, 1813.

It met at Mainz two cavalry marching divisions: the 1st, composed of all the detachments furnished from France by the regiments which are part of the 1st corps of cavalry, formed into four regiments of march; the other, composed of all the detachments of the regiments which are part of the 2nd corps. You will take command of these two divisions, and place them in the environs of Hanau, in places where they can form and organize themselves. The fifty-one cavalry regiments of the Grande Armée enter into the formation of these two divisions, of which the minister of war will send you the picture. Each of these fifty-one regiments will eventually provide 500 men, bringing these divisions to 25,500 men. The head of these regiments being to the army of the Elbe, and forming about 15,000 men, that will make more than 40,000 men of cavalry for the fifty-one regiments. My intention is, as soon as possible, to bring together all these detachments

(1) See letter No. 19813.[163]

to their respective regiments, to the army of the Elbe; but, in the meantime, they must be able to serve and be able to fight, if necessary, before their meeting. You will review all detachments; you will make them mad what they would miss; you will propose to me the appointment to the vacant posts; finally you will do all that is necessary for these divisions to be well and promptly organized. The Minister of War sends the generals, colonels, majors and squadron leaders necessary for this corps.

I order the Duke de Plaisance to go to Mayence to follow, under your orders, all the details of this organization.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19812. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris, April 6th, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, inform my ministers in Stuttgart, Karlsruhe, Munich, Würzburg, Darmstadt, and Westphalia confidentially, that I will be returned from May 12th to 15th at Mainz.

NAPOI.ÉON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19813. - TO THE GENERAL LACUEE, COUNT DE CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Paris, April 6th, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, your letter being badly written, it has been concluded, in the observation army of Italy, that the four ambulances should have together only for ten thousand wounds; the chief of the ambulance division would have to express his ideas in French.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19814, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGHAM.
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Paris, April 6, 1813,

I want you to be at Mainz on the 12th with all your staff. I also wish that Count Daru be returned to Mayence with all his employees and all his administrations;[164]

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he will fulfill the superior functions of authorizing officer of the Army of the Main,

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19815, - TO THE COUNT DARU,
MINISTER SECRETARY OF STATE, ARMY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
IN PARIS.

Paris, April 6, 1813,

Count Daru, I wish you to return to Mainz on the 12th. You will fulfill the duties of senior administrator of the Army of the Main. Take care that the authorizing officers, the commissioners of the wars, the employees of the administration, the doctors, the surgeons, the payers, that everything is returned to Mainz at this time.

You will submit to me a draft decree which will instruct the Duke of Cadore to fulfill the functions of Secretary of State to the Regent. Bring me today at five o'clock, - 1st, the decree on service during my absence; 2nd the decree for the custody of Paris; finally all you have to submit to me.

You have many affairs of administration: before leaving, take information from the Minister of War and the Count of Cessac, to know everything.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

19816. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Paris, April 6th, 1813.

I receive your letter of April 3rd. I am surprised that the sixteen artillery companies that are due to arrive in Magdeburg have not yet arrived. This is independent of the sixteen cadres.

I receive the attached letter from General Bourcier. How is it possible that the effects left in the month of February have not yet arrived at Magdeburg? See the agent of the company in charge of these transports, to know if he has his receipts. Write about this to General Bourcier; send him a report of what went out in February and the first half of March, and tell him to give himself some movement; that nothing is done alone; that he must send officers to know where the convoys are, and take them.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[165]

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19817. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN MAGDEBURG.

Paris, April 6th, 1813.

My Son, the 32nd Division is put out of the Constitution, as you will have seen from yesterday's *Monitor*. The entire 32nd division is under your command. The Major-General wrote it to General Saint-Cyr and to General Vandamme; which does not prevent these two generals from directly corresponding with the major-general.

Give yourself movement for the cavalry. The administration is so slow that nothing works if one does not give oneself infinite care. It is very certain that a great quantity of saddlery and clothing belonged from Mainz to Magdeburg, and must have reached Magdeburg, or near by. Send the agent of the company in charge of these transports, and send the officers to go to meet what is late, in order to have all this cavalry on horseback. I have told you that from now on I will have everything run by Wesel.

General Dombrowski, instead of coming by the Duchy of Berg, arrived at Wurzburg.

Perhaps the King of Westphalia is right in not exposing his troops in dubious moments, lest they should flounder: when, on the contrary, we will go forward, all this will serve us well.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19818. - TO MARECHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris, April 6th, 1813.

Ordnance Officer Laplace must be in your area. Send him to Dombrowski's corps to see what he misses; it is urgent to take all necessary measures to ensure that this corps is provided with everything, that its cavalry is mounted and its infantry armed and dressed. He must be approached from the rear to organize it entirely.

If General Durutte was obliged to evacuate the Saale, I think he ought to shut himself up in Erfurt: the city is safe from a coup de main; the citadel is armed and supplied; he would remain there master of the country.

It does not yet appear that the enemy is able to pass[166]

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the Elbe with great strength. All the noises he makes run are exaggerated and false. General Vandamme arrives on the Weser with forty battalions; he has already arrived there, personally, with eight or ten. All my crews are in Mainz so I can get there in forty-eight hours. But I do not yet see my armies advanced enough to take the offensive, nor the enemy threatening enough to believe my indispensable presence at Mainz. I wish I could stay another fortnight, because I have a lot of business here.

I suppose the Baden regiment must have arrived on the 1st or the 5th, which will bring your cavalry to 1,800 men. If you join the 1,200 Saxons, General Souham would probably be in the case of repelling all enemy parties. You must, at the moment, have all artillery. The sixteen companies must have arrived in Magdeburg.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19819. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Paris, April 7th, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, write to the Count of Narbonne to send agents to Bohemia to hear from the enemy. He must have someone at the extreme frontier, as close as possible to Glogau, to know where the investment of this place is and if the siege has begun.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Archives of Foreign Affairs.

19820. - TO PRINCE LEBRUN, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF HOLLAND, AMSTERDAM.

Paris, April 7th, 1813.

1,500 Swiss are on their way to Utrecht, eight battalions are also heading for that city, which will bring the observation corps of Utrecht to 12,000 men; but these troops will be there only temporarily; they will be relieved by twenty-eight battalions, composed of the conscription of 1814, in the course of May. So you can expect that throughout the summer you will have at least twenty battalions, of 800 men each, in position in Utrecht or in the neighborhood. So be without worry. Order the general who commands the 31st Division to reoccupy the islands.

General Vandamme is at Bremen; he arrived there with the head of[167]

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his column. Thirty battalions have already passed the Weser. The prince of Eckmühl runs along the Elbe and walks on Lüneburg to cut the enemy parties that have crossed the river. The Viceroy has 100,000 men on the right bank of the Elbe, in front of Magdeburg; he has already overthrown a Prussian corps. The corps of the Prince of Moskova, 60,000 strong, is entirely united between Würzburg and Meiningen; it has its headquarters in Vürzburg. The Duke of Ragusa will also have his 60, 000 men at Hanau and Fulde by the 15th of this month. The corps of General Bertrand, also 60,000 strong, which debouches from Italy, will be united on the 20th between Regensburg and Bamberg. My Guard already has 6,000 horses, 20,000 infantrymen, and a hundred pieces of cannon in Frankfurt, and the departures continue every day. As for Austria, there is no anxiety to be had; Prince Schwarzenberg arrives today: the most intimate relations exist between the two courts.

I appointed Senator Ferino to go to Holland to organize the National Guards. As they will be few, you will be able to organize beautiful battalions composed of the main owners and men most attached to France. See, in the choice of officers, to remove the Orangemen.

From near the copy. Archives of the Empire.

19821. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Paris, April 7th, 1813.

I gave orders that the troops of Saxe-Gotha and Saxe-Weimar should be under the orders of General Bonet. I have ordered the Duke of Ragusa to bring Bonet's division to Vacha, the Compans division to Fulde, and his 3rd division between Hanau and Fulde, as soon as it has its artillery. I hope that from the 15th to the 20th the Duke of Ragusa will be able to carry his headquarters to Fulde. A. At the same time, the head of General Bertrand's corps will arrive at Bamberg.

I would like to know the road that leads directly from Meiningen to Vacha, the one that leads from Meiningen to Gotha and the one that leads from Meiningen to Eisenach, as well as all the practicable routes for artillery that exist in the space between the road from Gotha to Würzburg and from Gotha to Hanau by Fulde, Let me make a sketch of this, There is a need for a bridge between Würzburg and Bamberg; have it established.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[168]

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19822. - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HANAU.

Paris. April 7, 1813.

I ordered Bonet's division to go to Fulde. I ordered that two battalions from Würzburg, who are in Würzburg, go to the Bonet division in Fulde. The four battalions of the Durutte division at Mainz also went to the Bonet division. General Bonet will thus have under his command six battalions of Durutte's division, who will join this division as soon as the latter can safely pass it on to him. I have ordered General Durutte, who arrives at Iena, in the event of his having to leave the Saale, to shut himself up in Erfurt; which will bring the garrison of this place to 5,000 men. General Ronet will have to communicate with Fulk with the Prince of Moskva at Wurzburg: there is a direct route; have it recognized.

There are at Gotba a thousand men belonging to the princes of Saxony, and 900 men of my guard on horseback, commanded by Colonel Lion; these troops will retire from Gotha only if it is necessary, and the enemy makes a great movement through Dresden, which does not seem probable. General Bonet will hold a vanguard at Vacha, on the Werra, and will communicate with the Souham division, which is at Meiningen, also on the Werra. Have this road recognized.

Order General Pernety to send his artillery without delay to General Bonet; it is of the greatest importance that this division should have sixteen pieces of cannon. As soon as Bonet's division has its sixteen pieces, and the Compans division will also have its artillery, you will push the Compans division on Fulde and the Bonet division on Eisenach.

Make known to Gotha that the troops of Gotha and Weimar are under the orders of General Bonet. If the 900 men on my horse guard were obliged to leave Gotha, General Bonet will keep them with him. As soon as your 3rd Division also has its artillery, you will direct it to Fulde. All these preparatory movements are intended to make the enemy aware of the presence of your troops, and to prevent him thereby from attacking the Viceroy, who is with 100,000 men in advance of Magdeburg.

It seems that you can not count on your 4th division, since it will only be formed in May or June. Let me know the situation of your divisions and that of your artillery and[169]

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of your engineers, in material and personnel. I suppose marine regiments have their music; if they do not have one, have them trained on the spot. I also suppose they have sappers with good axes. Provisional regiments must also have at least four sappers per battalion. The 37th light will also have sappers and music. You must know my rules for ambulances and crews, for officers' baggage, for regimental ambulances and for corps accounting; all this on the back of mules or platoon horses. Give orders accordingly. Let me know if the pay of your troops is known; this is all the more important as it would relieve the country.

The battalions of the marine regiments are too weak. You will leave in Mainz six battalion cadres of these regiments, namely, two for the regiment which has eight battalions, two for the regiment which has six, and one for each of the two regiments which have three battalions, so that you can wear the battalions you will keep at 600 men each. As I have taken steps to promptly complete the battalions left at Mainz, we must in no way weaken the cadres.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19823. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Saint Cloud. April 8, 1813.

I want you to present to me a draft decree to cut into the forests of the communes and other riparian forests, and those of my allies, all the woods necessary to supply completely Huningue, Neuf-Brisach, Kehl, Landau, Mainz, Wesel , Juliers, Venlo, Grave, designating in the decree the woods where the cuts will be made. These woods will be put in stores, and, as they can keep for fifty years, they will remain in reserve. It would be ridiculous for places of this size to remain devoid of this supply. That your calculations are made in the decree so that I do not hear any more about it. It will not cost me anything, since it will be done by requisition.

It seems to me useless to take this measure for Antwerp, considering the large quantity of wood that the navy and its yards can provide if necessary; but it should be applied to Flushing, at the strong[170]

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Imperial and Fort Napoleon of the island of Cadzand, Ostend, Calais, Dunkirk, Le Havre, Cherbourg, etc.

I would also like the same measure to be taken for Alexandria, Palmanova, Fenestrelle. This measure must extend to all my places; those with shipyards can be an exception, because of the marine woods found there and that can be taken under urgent circumstances. I do not need to talk about Fort Lasalle and the Holland squares, which must be in first order.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19824. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Saint Cloud. April 8, 1813.

Order the Duke of Castiglione to proceed to Frankfort, where he will take command of Frankfort, Hanau, and all the states of the Grand Duke of Frankfort. He will be careful to maintain good order and discipline, and will be in a position to receive a more active service. It must be returned to Frankfurt from 14 to 15.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19825. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Saint Cloud . April 8, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Feltre, it is not customary to bring conscripts from the old Vendee or from Brittany into the depots in Paris. This reflection applies to what you propose for the recruitment of the 32nd,

I had also authorized you, for this time, to place all the conscripts of the departments beyond the Alps in the depots which are in Italy. Thus Genoa sends 500 men to Navarreins: instead of that; that this department sends them to Verona. Montenotte sends 582 men to Marseilles: that he sends them to Verona. The Po sends to Wesel, for the light island, 300 men, and to Rome, 220 men: these two dispositions are worthless; the 300 men of Wesel will be sent to Verona, as well as the 220 men who are in Rome.

It will be the same for the 280 men that the department of Stura sends to Rome. Bring it all together in Verona.[171]

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We will recruit the 6th of line with French, since it is possible that this regiment remains at Home.

I do not see why you do not give all that is in Paris and the surrounding departments to the Imperial Guard; it would avoid many steps and simplify the operation.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19826, - TO COUNT LAVALLETTE,
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POSITIONS, IN PARIS.

Saint-Cloud, April 8, 1813,

A letter from Augsburg, dated the 4th, only happens to me today; it seems to me that it is very late; we must come here from Augsburg in less than seventy-two hours. See where this delay comes from.

The headquarters of General Bertrand is to be taken to Nuremberg on the 13th; so the letter that I write today to this general, you can dispatch it again by Augsburg, but the next mail will have to be directed from Strasbourg to Nuremberg.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19827. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Saint-Cloud, April 8, 1813,

I want you to send me the booklet of your body, written so that I know well the situation of your artillery and your engineers in materiel and personnel, as well as the situation of all your regiments in colonels, majors, leaders squadrons, officers, soldiers; generals, warrant officers, etc. I suppose you know my baggage decree; establish a post office, and hold your hand there. You also know my decree on the regimental ambulances, which will be on mules or platoon horses, as well as those which I grant to the officers for their baggage and to the corps for their accounting. Put all this in order.

I suppose that the 22nd of line has his sappers, his music and his eagle. If he did not have his music, he would have to form one right away. Give orders, and make sure of their execution, so that each of the eight cohort regiments have music, good or bad. All supplies must be in uniform[172]

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of the line; they must also have their sappers. I also ordered that provisional regiments have at least four sappers per battalion. Make it all work well.

I made funds available to even commanding artillery. Get some horses in Cobourg, Hildburghansen, Meiningen, etc., to replace your bad horses, hitch well or artillery and crews. Have this requisition in good standing; make the payment and give vouchers. The main thing is to put in good condition your teams and to repair the losses that you must have experienced from Metz to Meiningen.

Get in touch with General Bonet in Fulde. Have a sketch made of this road, and let me know if it is good; Have one of your engineers also make the route from Meiningen to Vacha.

I have 6,000 horses of my Guard assembled at Frankfort; 3,000 leave Paris these days: at the end of the month I will have 9,000 horses from my Guard in Frankfurt. General Bertrand has 4,000. I hope that with the Württemberg and the Saxons you will soon have 5,000.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19828. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN AUGSBURG.

Saint Cloud. April 8, 1813.

Count Bertrand, bring your 1st and 4th Division, with your cavalry and artillery, to Bamberg, and carry your headquarters there. Try that all this happened from the 15th to the 20th. Push your 2nd and even 3rd division on Nuremberg and Anspach. Events become urgent: so you have to be online. I asked you to write to Marshal Ney, who is in Würzburg.

Make 200,000 rations of biscuit bread in Bamberg, so that your troops can take in their passage; have 4,000 quintals of flour prepared.

Write to my minister at Munich to have the king, if possible, send 3 to 4,000 guns to Kronach and as much to Forchheim, and 500,000 rounds of infantry in each of these two places.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.[173]

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19829. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN AUGSBURG

Saint Cloud. April 8, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I have asked you to press the movement of the tail of your troops on Nuremberg and Anspach. I suppose that each division has its generals and its artillery. 1st division and 4a must be before the 15th between Anspach and Nuremberg; bring in the cavalry, since you are at that moment in a position. Set up near Regensburg a small cavalry depot for your most fatigued horses, and if you can find some horses to buy in replacement of the out-of-service horses, do it.

I order General Pernety, who is at Mainz, to send 20,000 francs to the commander of your artillery for the small expenses of the park. The April balance of your body must be paid in full by the paymaster general of the army, who is in Mainz. Make sure the pay is up to date, and send your payer to Mainz for funds.

I hope that with the three provisional regiments that you have dissolved, we will have completed the 3rd and 13th of the line, so that the nine battalions alone must make between 7 and 8,000 men. You will have dismissed the cadres of these provisional regiments in Italy, where they will serve in the formation of the 2nd Observation Corps of Italy, which is to meet in Verona at the end of May.

In the citadel of Würzburg there is a marching battalion which consists of companies belonging to the former 4th corps; I order the Prince of Moskva to send you to Bamberg as soon as you are there. Incorporate this battalion into the corps that will need it, but send back to Italy the officers and non-commissioned officers.

A Bavarian general is in Bamberg, send him to know what is going on; send also to the prince of Moskova in Würzburg.

I asked you yesterday to have sappers and axes given to the provisional regiments, and music, as well as supplies from the line to the two regiments composed of cohorts.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.[174]

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19830. - A FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT STUTTGART.

Saint Cloud. April 8, 1813.

Brother, I am only waiting for the arrival of the observation corps of Italy commanded by General Bertrand, and whose vanguard, at this moment, must be at Nuremberg, to go to put myself at the head of my armies, and I hope, with the help of God, to expel in a few days the hostile army beyond the Elbe. I have an indispensable need of 2,000 horses from your Majesty; I want him to have them leave without delay for Wurzburs, and that they have arrived on the 20th of this month. In the absence of this cavalry, I should be obliged to delay my operations, and meanwhile some of the States of Confederation are ravaged by the enemy, which is approaching the frontiers of your Majesty.

I do not speak of your infantry; I suppose it is already gone, in whole or in part. Besides, the delay of some battalions would not delay my operations; but they would be so by the delay of your cavalry. Arrived on the Elbe, my armies will be in a position to wait for the time necessary for the rest of the troops to join.

I believe that I have already informed your Majesty through the intermediary of my Minister for Foreign Affairs that if, at the end of May, he needed some battalions of infantry, either for Worarlberg, or for any other circumstance, he would have them in Strasbourg at his disposal.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19831. - TO FRÉDERIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, RATISBONNE.

St. Cloud, April 8, 1813.

Brother, I have received your Majesty's letter, where I learn of his happy arrival at Regensburg. I am only waiting for the arrival of the 4th corps, commanded by Count Bertrand, whose vanguard must, at the present time, be at Nuremberg, to leave me for Mainz, and the head of my armies. I hope, with the help of God, to be a few days later in Dresden.

Your Majesty has 1,800 cavalrymen; I want him to put them at my disposal. If they are on the side of Regensburg, they will be able to go to Würzburg. These troops are indispensable to me. In their absence, I would have to delay by several days my departure, to see them replaced by the[175]

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cavalry coming from France, and that would put the enemy in the case, for so many days, to ravage Saxony and spread there an evil spirit. I desire that your Majesty send me, by the return of my orderly officer, the situation of his troops, and especially his regiment of cuirassiers, by informing me where they will be, day by day, because they enter my calculations.

I am sorry for the unexpected destruction of the Dresden Bridge, but after all, it is the business of a few hundred thousand francs.

If your Majesty had light artillery with this cavalry, I would like it to give him the order to follow it.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19832. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN PARIS.

Saint-Cloud, April 9, 1813,

My Cousin, I suppose you will be the 13th at Mainz; warn the Duke of Ragusa, the Prince of Moskva, and General Bertrand. I order the Duke of Ragusa to assemble his army corps on Eisenach; to the Prince of the Moskva to gather his on Meiningen, and to General Berlrand to gather his on Bamberg and Coburg. I order the Prince of the Moskva to take up position on the heights of the mountains, occupying the outlets of the plain, or to reach Erfurt. If indeed he went to Erfurt, the Duke of Ragusa would go to Gotha. In the case, on the contrary, where he would take a position on the mountains, the Duke of Ragusa would take a corresponding on the mountains near Eisenach. General Durutte sent fourteen artillery pieces hitched to Erfurt; they must be given to the Duke of Ragusa, who will have them taken as soon as he is within reach.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original. Deposit of the war,

19833. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Saint-Cloud, April 9, 1813,

From the 15th to the 18th, General Bertrand will be with his 1st, his 4th division and cavalry at Bamberg; he will have his 2nd division and his 3rd march from Augsburg to Nuremberg and Anspach. I gave the order to the Duke[176]

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of Ragusa to gather, at the same time, his corps on Vacha, occupying Eisenach, and to choose a good position at the outlets of the mountains to place his corps. I wish that at the same time you take position on the heights between Meiningen and Gotha or Meiningen and Erfurt.
Here is the information I have: the Russians have 25,000 men before Danzig, 10,000 men at Thorn, 10,000 men at Modlin, 20,000 men on the Pilica, vis-à-vis the Poles and Austrians, 12,000 men who surround Glogau, 10,000 in front of Küslrin, 15,000 around Stettin; so that most of their strength is occupied around the forts. General Blucher must be on Dresden. The corps of General York and part of that of Wittgenstein are opposed to the Viceroy between Brandenburg and Magdeburg. I do not think, therefore, that he now enters the plans of the enemy to make a great movement of forces by Dresden, or that he can do so with more than 25,000 men. From even Meiningen's position, you will be in the case of judging the strength and intentions of the enemy. I would like to see you take a stand in front of Erfurt, which would reassure all of Westphalia and could enable us to seize the outlets of the Saale, at the same time as it would support the viceroy. In this case the Duke of Ragusa would go to Gotha, and General Bertrand would push his head to Coburg. In any case, it is necessary that even army corps is to the outlets of the mountains of Thuringia, as I told you above.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19834. - TO MARSCHAL MARMONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HANAU.

Saint Cloud. April 9, 1813.

From the 15th to the 18th, support your 1st and 3rd division on Fulde and your 2nd on Vacha; take, immediately after, position on the heights of Eisenach, so as to place your corps there and to dominate the plain. Send one of your officers to acquaint yourself with the movement of the Prince of Moskva, a division of which is already at Meiningen, and which, from the 15th to the 18th, will gather all his forces on Meiningen, If the Prince of the Moskva thought fit to occupy the near Erfurt, you would be on Gotha, General Bertrand arrives from the 15th to the 18th at Bamberg, and will follow the movement on Cobourg,

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[177]

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19835. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 10, 1813.

Order the Marshal Duke of Taranto to leave in the day of tomorrow to go by Wesel to the army of the Elbe at Magdeburg, where he will take command of the corps, under the orders of the viceroy. It would be necessary that he arrived on the 15th or the 16th.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19836. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL,
GRAND MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 10, 1813.

You will write to the Duke of Treviso to keep ready, on the 15th of this month, a division of the troops of my Guard, composed of sixteen battalions, to wit: two battalions of old Guards, grenadiers, and chasseurs; two rifle battalions (grenadiers and chasseurs); this will form the 1st brigade; two battalions of the 1st regiment of voltigeurs, two of the 6th, the two 2nd battalions of the 2nd tirailleurs and the 2nd voltigeurs, will form the 2nd brigade; two battalions of the 1st of tirailleurs, two of the 6th, two of the 7th, will form the 3rd brigade. These three brigades will be commanded by Adjutants-General Lanusse, Berthezene, and Tindal. The division will be by General Dumoustier, whose chief of staff will be Adjutant Commander Semery. It will be attached to this division seven batteries of artillery, or fifty-two guns, namely: a battery of artillery on foot to each of the three brigades, two batteries of artillery on horseback with the cavalry, and two batteries of reserve on foot. The artillery will be commanded by General Desvaux, It will also leave four companies of military crews with personnel and equipment of four ambulances; the rest of the carriages will be laden with flour, and the authorizing officer will take measures to make it pass by the division of a hundred thousand rations of biscuit; finally all the sappers, sailors and administrative workers available. This division will be under the orders of the Marshal Duke of Istria. I let the master determine the amount of cavalry he can take.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[178]

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19837. - TO GENERAL MOUTON, COUNT DE LOBAU,
AIDE DE CAMP OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 10, 1813.

What are the best six infantry generals to command an infantry division, to be able to make divisional generals? What are the twelve best colonels or warrant officers who can make good brigade generals, both in the prime of life and currently available?

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19838. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
A MAYENCE

St. Cloud, April 10, 1813.

My Cousin, General Dombrowski, must have arrived on the 10th at Frankfort, have this corps filled with all the Polish light-horse of my Guard, and put this corps where I wanted to place the Durutte division, between the grand duchy of Bérg and Westphalia. Let me know the situation of this corps, what is missing and what needs to be done to reorganize it quickly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. Duke de Valmy.

19839. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

St. Cloud, April 10, 1813.

The Marshal Duke of Istria leaves tomorrow and will be returned to Frankfurt on the 14th. The same day, the Prince of Neuchatel will be returned to Mainz. I made my intentions known to you by my letter of yesterday. The Major General writes to you in more detail. You will see in his letter that I order the Duke of Istria to join the Duke of Ragusa with 10,000 infantrymen of my Guard (sixty pieces of cannon and six thousand horses), and to march on Eisenach. He will command the Duke of Ragusa as senior, and he himself will be under your orders for the same reason. The Duke of Istria has orders only to take a position on Eisenach. If I have not arrived, it is from you that he will receive the initiative to go to Gotha, if you go to Erfurt. In this case, converge on your right General Marchand with the Bavarians and the allies. In the cases[179]

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unforeseen, you will also command General Bertrand, by the same principle. If there are no major drawbacks, go to Erfurt with your whole corps. Order the Duke of Istria to go to Gotha. You are even authorized to summon all the cavalry of the Duke of Istria to your height, and to place all your cavalry under his orders.

I have written, by my orderly officer Lauriston, to the kings of Saxony and Wurtemberg to direct all their cavalry to Wurzburg; which would make an increase of 3,000 horses, which, together with those you have and those of the Guard, could make 12,000 horses at the camp of Erfurt. You have nearly 60,000 infantrymen with the allies; the Duke of Istria brings you 40,000; that would make an army of 100,000 infantry and 12,000 cavalry men. You must have a hundred and thirty guns with the allies; the Duke of Istria with the Duke of Ragusa in a hundred and twenty; that will make you two hundred and fifty guns. General Bertrand has 4,000 men of cavalry, 45,000 infantry, and eighty guns. Thus the union of these three armies would make nearly 150,000 infantry, 16,000 cavalry, and three hundred and thirty guns.

On the 1st of May 10,000 men of infantry and 3,000 of cavalry with forty pieces of cannon will be assembled under the command of the Duke of Treviso at Frankfort.

I have told you that I thought that the Bavarians should be united in a single division on Schleiz, if prudence permits them to occupy it; on Saalfeld, if already it is more prudent that they occupy Saalfeld; or finally, Coburg, if Saalfeld himself is too advanced. They will be united to General Marchand, who, on your right, would thus have a corps of 15 to 20,000 men. This corps would appear to me well placed at Saalfeld, as long as you are in front of Erfurt.

You know how little you have to rely on the allies, so it's very important not to expose them to failure. Kronach being stocked and armed, the main thing is to squeeze all this on you and to be en masse. As soon as you reach Erfurt, you must take your Eisenach and Fulde line as soon as possible, leaving the Würzburg line, which is too far to the right.

From the minute, Archive of the Empire.[180]

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19840. TO GENERAL COUNT FONTANELLI,
MINISTER OF WAR AND NAVY OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Saint Cloud. April 10, 1813.

Propose me the project of formation of the Italian division of sixteen battalions which, at the end of May, must meet at Verona or at Brescia, to be part of the observation corps of Verona. The six French regiments that are in Italy will have all their 4th battalions completed to 840 men, and the 5th battalions to 560. This observation corps will be considerable and able to defend Illyria and Italy. You must prepare the artillery, the sappers, the military crews and all that is necessary for the Italian division,

Propose me to gather all this as close as possible to the division, in order to begin to put them in order and train the men more quickly.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19841. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO,
MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Saint Cloud. April 11, 1813.

I send you a letter from the Police Commissioner of Aubignoso.

Write to him that he was wrong to leave Bremen, and that when he is not sure of a news he must not give it. Hanover has not been evacuated; everything was quiet on the 5th. This Sieur d'Aubignoso is nothing but a whippersnapper who spreads the alarm everywhere. When he does not have positive news, he should shut up, or give good news.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19842. - TO DARU COUNTY,
CHIEF OFFICER OF THE ARMY OF THE MAIN, IN PARIS.

Saint Cloud. April 11, 1813.

Count Daru, I ordered the Minister of the Treasury to reinstate the funds for March and April in the Mainz Fund. Order the Director of the Mainz Fund to transfer the funds of the 4th Corps to Bamherg, to Wurzburs to those of the 1st Rhine Observation Corps, to Fulde to those of the 2nd, to Frankfort those to the Guard, and that funds for all April exist in the coffers of these payers and are returned to April 18. Write to General Pernety[181]

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to make him aware of his credit of March and April, and immediately distribute it among the various corps, so that the commanders of artillery have in their hands all that is necessary for them .

Write similarly to General Kirgener, who acts as Commander of the Engineers of the Army of the Main; let him know the funds made available for March and April, so that he can provide for the strengthening of the fortresses, including the citadel of Würzburg, and send funds to the commanders of the three corps.

On the funds which are at your disposal as Chief Authorizing Officer, send 50,000 francs to the payer of the 4th Corps, who will be at the disposal of the authorizing officer. General Bertrand will order them, and the authorizing officer will give you an account of them: this will avoid delays in an infinity of small expenses. For example, the mass of shoeing for the Neapolitan cavalry and the advances for the military crews will be taken on it. Engage General Bertrand to keep you informed of that accountancy.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

19843. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF THE GREAT ARMY, IN STASSFURT.

St. Cloud, April 11, 1813.

My Son, it is probable that I will be from the 20th to the 22nd with 200,000 men at Erfurt. I do not know what you will do. Maneuver accordingly, and make sure that I have my communications with you assured. Immediately after the receipt of this letter, send me the important dispatches in duplicate, by Wesel and Erfurt.

As I have only your letter of the 6th, or I see that you are at Magdeburg, if you ever thought fit to leave Magdeburg, leave the Duke of Belluno's corps to form the garrison, and especially let the prince of Eckmühl in the 32nd division. You will find attached my decree on the organization of this 32nd division. Make known to the Prince of Eckmühl that he has all the powers; he commands General Vandamme; he must in all cases defend Hannover, Bremen and the 32nd division. The twenty-eight battalions which General Vandamme must have, and which form the 2nd and 5th divisions of the Grand Army, arrive every day. Soon the battalions that will form the 3rd and 6th will start for Wesel.[182]

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Leave the command of all this to the prince of Eckmühl, whose aim will be constantly to defend at any event the Elbe, Weser and Holland. General Lemarois is at Wesel, where he collects the 3rd and 6th divisions, and in case of an event he would shut himself up in Wesel.

With the observation corps of the Elbe, the 11th and all the cavalry that you will be able to do, keep in touch with me and be able to execute the maneuvers that I will show you. Get four days of bread. Keep yourself in front of Magdeburg as long as you can, and above all communicate to me exactly all the news you will have of the enemy. As soon as I arrive in Erfurt, our natural communications will be behind the Saale.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19844. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

St. Cloud, April 11, 1813.

I receive your letters of the 7th. You will have since received my instructions for your movement on Erfurt. it is fitting that you correspond with the Viceroy. It appears that General Morand, with 1,200 Saxons, was surrounded in Luneburg, and that, having been wounded, the Saxons surrendered. Prince Eckmühl arrived the next day, chased the enemy and forced him back to the Elbe. This last circumstance is happy, in that it gives General Vandamme, who is at Bremeu, time to receive his twenty-eight battalions; he has already received ten.

On the 6th, the Viceroy returned to the left bank of the Elbe, having been informed that the enemy was throwing a bridge near Dessau, a news which seems to me hazardous. I have sent an orderly officer to the King of Saxony, and I have no doubt that his cavalry, as well as that of the King of Wurtemberg, will proceed to Wurzburg. I am very sorry that you sent a squadron of the 10th hussars to Erfurt; you know how much our light cavalry exposes, and he will be caught. This regiment was whole and good to keep together. Send the order to this squadron not to advance, under any pretext whatsoever, beyond the cannon of Erfurt. The Cossacks marching in troops of 4 to 500 men, what can make reconnaissance of 15 or 20 men?

Order General Doucet to send to the Duke of Ragusa the artillery left him by General Durutte. I do not understand what[183]

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make the foreign officers to the cadres who are there. I asked you to send the two battalions and the squadron at Würzburg to Bonet's division at Fulde to form a brigade of all that belongs to the Durutte division. Order that all the detachments of officers and non-commissioned officers who are at Erfurt, who do not belong to the battalions which are to be completed or garrisoned, should march to Frankfurt.

I see only advantages for each of your divisions to have a deck crew in accordance with the project attached to your letter of the 7th.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19845. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

St. Cloud, April 11, 1813, noon.

Brother, I order that you send 500,000 francs in gold. I will be in Erfurt from the 20th to the 22nd in my person, with 200,000 men, independently of the Viceroy's army. General Vandamme and the Prince of Eckmühl remain in the North to defend the kingdom of Westphalia and the 32nd military division, the twenty-eight battalions of General Vandamme arrive to him every day, and twenty-eight others meet at Wesel under the orders of General Lemarois, which makes eighty-four battalions (including those of Prince Eckmühl) who, in the month of May, can defend the kingdom of Westphalia and the 32nd military division. With the Viceroy and 200,000 men I lead with me, I will attack the enemy Send me news in great detail of all that is happening, either on the side of the Viceroy or on the side of Bremen either on the side of the Prince of Eckmühl, and send me your letters by duplicate on Erfurt and Mainz, direct your couriers so that they meet me, and I intend to leave next Monday, 19, and to be on the 21st at Mayence. On the 22nd, on Eisenach, you will receive this letter on the 14th. what you will write to me on the 15th, the 16th, the 17th, the 18th, the 19th, direct it by duplicate on Mainz, so that I receive your news without loss of time.

I can not prescribe anything for your corps, because I do not know what will happen to the Viceroy. Support the Viceroy and the Prince of Eckmühl as long as you can. Let me know in detail where all your troops are, so that if I thought it fit to fight a general battle, you could join me with all that you would have available. I do not need[184]

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to tell you that this is a very great secret, for you alone, and that nobody should be aware of it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A, I. Prince Jerome,

19846. - TO M. REINHART, LANDAMMAN OF SWITZERLAND, IN ZURICH.

St. Cloud, April 11, 1813.

Mr. Landamman, I receive with keen interest the sentiments and wishes that you express to me. As much as I love the happiness of your nation, so I appreciate his good and loyal services; I have noticed them in the last campaign, and I wish that your regiments will soon be rehabilitated to act with the same utility, and to continue to support this renown of fidelity and bravery which Switzerland has always honored.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

19847. - TO THE MOLLIEN COUNCIL, MINISTER OF TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Saint Cloud. April 12, 1813,

Count Mollien, I have seen what you have written concerning the acceleration of the sale of municipal property. I think that the measures you propose would be ineffective. I have, however, spoken to the Minister of Finance; but what seems to me to accelerate these sales is the issue of bonds of the sinking fund, which I think I have already ordered, eligible for payment of municipal property, and which would be used to pay on the spot. field all that the treasure owes. Thus, for example, 1st) forage is supplied by requisition in almost all departments; they are not suppliers, but owners who owe a lot of money; in the department of Mont-Tonnerre, alone, I am assured that it is due to 600,000 francs; 2nd) I raise at this moment 12,000 horses, which will make a value of several millions; Third, it owes several millions to the civil hospitals; Finally, there are many other things owed by the administration of war and by the navy for the years in arrears: could we not collect all these debts and make an issue equal to their value in vouchers of the credit union? amortization of 1,000 or 5,000 francs, eligible for payment of municipal property and repayable at fixed times? I would see a lot of advantages: a lot of owners[185]

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would be paid; that would give many people the idea of buying communal property, and the government should not have anything left.

In short, in the space of eight days, and in the whole of France at the same time, bonds of the sinking fund of 1,000 and 5,000 francs should be issued to pay for all the services of 1812 and previous years. war and navy, and also pay for routine services, such as the service of civil hospitals and requisitions made in the departments, either for fodder, for food, or for transport, etc. This plan can only strengthen the credit and not harm it. In fact, a department whose requisitions are not paid is a creditor of the State and loses the interest on its claim, while the vouchers given to it are interest-bearing and are repayable in one or two years, independently the faculty of employing them in the purchase of communal property. It is obvious that this measure would relieve the treasure, reassure the owners who made supplies and speed up sales, and that there can only be the inconvenience of having them listed on the spot at 8 or 9 per cent of loss; but, first of all, it would be impossible to prevent these vouchers from appearing on the spot; and then, what would that do, since we do not borrow? It would be only a small part that would be rated, and these effects, of their nature, are not discreditable, and therefore can not be discredited. See the Minister of Finance on this point, and let me know your opinion and the result of your conference tomorrow, by putting before me all the good things I have ordered by financial arrangements.

Here is how I understand that we can perform this operation

DRAFT DECREE.

TITLE I

FIRST ARTICLE. All the services of 1812, 1811, 1810 and previous years will be sold to the treasury in bonds of the sinking fund, which will be discussed below.

ART. 2. All sums owed by the navy and the administration of war to departments, communes and civil hospitals, for horses, carriages, fodder, hospital days, etc., amounting to ... attached statement, will be cleared in the month, also in sums of the sinking fund.

TITLE II.

ART. 3. It is created ... millions of sums of the sinking fund, eligible for payment of municipal property.[186]

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ART. 4. A credit, in accordance with the attached table, is open to each of our ministers for payment without further formalities.

ART. 5. Our ministers of finance and public treasury are responsible, etc.

The more I think about it, the less I see what one could argue against this measure. It will be said that clothing suppliers who need money, and to whom we owe 12 or 15 million, will negotiate these vouchers on the spot and will lose 8 per cent, of which they will increase their markets: but these same suppliers, who today are not paid, because we do not have enough to pay them, are in a much worse situation; instead of debts which they lose interest, and which can not give them any credit, they will have in their hands a real pledge, which can give them credit, which bears interest and which can finally be used to buy communal goods . Their situation will therefore be much improved. No doubt, if the current were paid with this money, the merchants would be obliged to discount the good, and would be at the mercy of the capitalists; but it is not a question of current service; for the suppliers, it is only the backlog, that is to say, their profit. The Montessuy provider insistently asked to be paid in this way, and although the vouchers he received did not have the advantage of being eligible for payment of estates, he regarded this payment as a benefit. Because of the average, all arrears services would be settled. Do me a job that will let me know what I owe for the different services on the backward years.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

19848. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 12, 1813.

Answer to the Duke d'Abrantes that there are twenty-four French battalions and six battalions in Italy; that each of these six regiments will be raised to the conscription of 1814, and that of the four years to 4,000 men, and that thus we may send him as many troops as it will be necessary; that he must not send a provisional battalion to Ragusa, we shall soon know where we are; that it is necessary to wait for the definitive battalions; that in Ragusa there are Croats and Italian battalions; which I approve[187]

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that he sends the Italian battalions to Ragusa, Zara and Cattaro.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19849. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT SORBIER,
COMMANDING THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY AT ASCHERSLEBEN.

Saint Cloud. April 12, 1813.

Sixteen artillery companies are needed for the Army of the Main; they had to leave on the 11th of March at Magdeburg, as you have announced. We were waiting for them on the 29th at Mainz, and here we are on the 8th of April: no one has arrived yet. If you had delayed the departure of these companies, you would have committed a great fault; you have too much experience for me to believe you can. So let me know where these sixteen companies are, whose delay paralyzes two hundred pieces of cannon.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19850.- TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT NUREMBERG.

Saint Cloud. April 12, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I suppose that you will arrive at Bamberg on the 15th with your 1st and 4th divisions, your cavalry, and the artillery of your two divisions. The Prince of Moskova has informed you of his movements and those of the enemy. Your 2nd and 3rd divisions are too far to wait for them; activate their walk. But it will be necessary to make your meeting with the army before these two divisions arrive. From Bamberg you have two roads to join the army: that of Coburg and that of Schweinfurt. Circumstances will determine what you prefer. Cobourg has the advantage of taking you on a road that has not yet been followed. Once in Coburg you are only two days away from Meiningen. The road to Schweinfurt has the disadvantage of placing you at the tail of the prince of the Moskva.

I suppose you have the artillery of your first two divisions and the light artillery of your cavalry. I suppose all your men have their cartridges; if they do not have them, take them to Forchheim. Fill your caissons with flour and make sure you have eight or ten days of bread. Send me your status report.

It is likely that I will be from May 16 to 17 in Mainz.[188]

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Give me a clear idea of the position of your corps, and let me know the news that the Bavarians will have by Kronach or Baireuth.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count HenrI Bertrand.

19851. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT NUREMBERG.

St. Cloud, April 12, 1813.

General Bertrand, I see with difficulty that you sent General Briche with 500 cavalrymen. In case of an event, it would be 500 men lost, We have little cavalry, so we must spare: to this end, always keep together your 3,000 horses, with one or two batteries of light artillery, and do it even support by one or two battalions of voltigeurs: then you will have no events to fear. But if you detach 500 horses in this way, something will happen, the Cossacks being always very numerous. Rule of thumb: that your cavalry always works together.

NAPOLEON,

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19852. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT NUREMBERG.

St. Cloud, April 12, 1813.

General Bertrand, you will have received orders on the 12th that I sent you on the 8th to take your headquarters to Bamberg. I guess the 14, or at. later on the 15th, you will have been there with your 1st and 4th divisions, and your cavalry which arrived at Augsburg on the 10th will be on the 16th or the 18th.

The Prince of Moskva will have let you know that my intention is to refuse my right and let the enemy enter Baireuth, doing the opposite of the one I did in the campaign of Iena, so that if the enemy penetrates Baireuth, I can arrive before him on Dresden and cut him off Prussia.

The Duke of Istria, having under his command the Duke of Ragusa, 40,000 men of infantry and 10,000 men of cavalry, went to Eisenach, where he arrived from the 18th to the 20th. The Prince of the Moskva went to Erfurt, where he will also have arrived on the 20th. He has under his command 60,000 men, including allies and a few thousand[189]

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horses. The Prince of Neuchatel has departed this morning and will be on the 14th at Mayence; I will be there with my person on the 20th. The Prince of the Moskova will direct your movement, but, as I suppose that your cavalry and your two divisions, with the artillery attached to them, will have arrived at Bamberg on the 16th, you will support the movement of the Prince of Moskva, carrying you with these two divisions and your cavalry on Coburg. This movement is the most natural, because it is the shortest, and that from Coburg you will be only two days distant from Meiningen, three from Erfurt and three from Iena, and thus you can still maneuver on the Saale. So, if things are such that the Prince of the Moskva goes to Erfurt, your position on Coburg will place you on his right, and from there you can go, according to the circumstances, to Iena, Erfurt or Meiningen. What is advisable to recommend to you is to walk closely, your two divisions united, your artillery properly placed, having no tail, bivouacking every evening as soon as you are out of Bamberg, and having your cartridges in the bag. The enemy is far from suspecting the considerable forces that will be carried on the Saale. If we were happy enough that the enemy really made a big move on Haireuth, he would soon be recalled to the Elbe.

You can, as I told you, change the line of your 2nd and 3rd divisions, directing them to Würzburg. For the rest, I will be at Mainz myself, and I will be able to direct their march according to the circumstances. So make sure that I find in Mainz details about everything you do.

The best way to bivouac your divisions is in squares, unless they are leaning against a river or some obstacle which renders this provision useless. Avoid cavalry scuffles; Above all, take steps to ensure that your food is safe. Load all your caissons of flour, since they can carry up to eighteen quintals, and they could only carry a thousand rations of bread. Push the arrival of your sailors, pontooners and furnace builders, so that they join you. Also press the arrival of your engineering tools. Send officers to the Prince of the Moskva, to General Marchand at Coburg, if he is still there, and to Schleiz near the Bavarians, to find out what is going on. Kronach is armed and stocked and safe from a helping hand.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.[190]

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19853. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 13, 1813.

I appointed the orderly officer Chabrillan Squadron Leader; send it to a regiment, and send it away without delay. Do not let these young people who belong to the court set the wrong example to avoid going to war. General d'Oudenarde is in a state of service; order him to go to Mainz, where he will find a destination; that he be there on the 16th.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19854, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELT,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS

Saint-Cloud, April 13, 1813,

I send you the Spanish correspondence which still remained in my hands. Recommend again to the King to assure his communications so that his correspondence is regular with you; that he destroy all those bands that are on his rear. Recommend to General Decaen to protect my borders. Have your instructions repeated to the King, that if he does not keep the enemy in check, the enemy may be able to lose his arm to make diversions in France or on the rear; which would paralyze the beautiful army that he has in his hands,

Make sure that the second request made to soldiers for the Guard is fulfilled, Ask more officers, in order to fill all the provisional corps,

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19855, - TO THE BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE,
TREASURER GENERAL OF THE CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAIN, IN PARIS,

Saint-Cloud, April 13, 1813,

Of the ten millions of gold which you have drawn from the extraordinary reserve treasury, you have sent two for Mainz; you will send two others tonight. Three were placed at the disposal of the grand marshal for the Guard; you will hold a fourth at your disposal, so it will be seven million that I will have advanced to the Guard,

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[191]

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19856. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, GRAND SQUIRE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

St. Cloud, April 13, 1813.

Here are my arrangements for my departure: I will leave with you in a light carriage; the grand marshal with Count Lobau in another carriage; Fain and Yvan in a third carriage. These three carriages will also be light, without cows or packages. In my carriage, we will put a selection of books, postcards, sketches we made recently in my topographical office, some maps of the country between the Elbe and the Main. Fain will have in his car my situation and my correspondence with the army, either the letters I received or those I wrote. The remaining geographer engineer will leave with the rest of my maps and papers and will follow the road to Trier. My room will also leave by the road to Trier. I will have all my aides-de-camp and order officers.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19857. - TO THE PHINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE. GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Saint Cloud. April 13, 1813.

Cousin, I suppose that you arrived at Mainz on the morning of the 15th; the dispatch will arrive there at the same time as you. You have informed the Prince of Moskva, General Bertrand, the Duke of Ragusa, and the Viceroy, so that all accounts may be sent to you. The Viceroy, on the 8th, tells me that he has taken his headquarters to Stassfurt; it seems that he is in position at the mouth of the Saale. I suppose the first thing you did was send an officer to Eisenach to recognize where the Duke of Ragusa's outposts are.

General Bertrand arrived on the 11th at Nuremberg. I suppose he was ordered to go to Bamberg; he arrived there on the 15th, with his 1st and 4th divisions, his artillery and his cavalry. The latest news of the Prince of Moskova are from the 10th; he had not yet received my order. It was only on the 12th that he was able to focus on Meiningen.

The Viceroy believes that the enemy has passed in force on the left bank of the Elbe. It is said that Blücher had his headquarters at Altenburg on the 8th, and that a party of Cossacks had been seen at Iena. The 9th,[192]

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the Cossacks had not yet seen each other in Weimar. The Prince de la Moskova had sent, as I think, General Marchand to Coburg. The enemy already had parties on Saalfeld.

In this situation of things, the prince of Moskova will have already concentrated his corps on Meiningen. General Bertrand will be already on Bamberg, and I suppose that the Duke of Ragusa will already be on Eisenach. From Eisenach to Meiningen, as from Vacha to Meiningen, there are communications, and there are scarcely ten leagues; there are fifteen, I believe, from Meiningen to Fulde. It has been a long time since I asked to know the situation of these wheels; I believe them good. Thus the Prince of Moskva and the Duke of Ragusa are only ten leagues distant from each other. It is up to the Prince of the Moskova to give the movement to General Bertrand, who in two days may be at Coburg, or to go from Bamberg to Schweinfurt and thence to Meiningen. If it passes by Cobourg, there is Cobourg in Meiningen two days. The main thing is that these corps meet there or are in a position to meet there. If, then, you receive any news that might make one fear that General Bertrand's movement on Cobourg would be disturbed, it would be prudent for this general to turn to Schweinfurt. General Bertrand will not be able to leave Bamberg until the 16th at the earliest. The 2nd and 3rd divisions of this general will not reach Augsbura until the 17th; so they are a few days late. But its two first divisions, which form 20,000 infantry, the 60,000 men of the Duke of Elchingen, and the 40,000 men of the Duke of Istria, form a force of 120,000 infantry. The 3,000 men of General Bertrand's cavalry, the 2,000 of the Prince of Moskva, and 6,000 of the Duke of Istria, make 11,000 cavalry; which, joined to the artillery of the three corps of the Guard, will make an army sufficient to give time to arrive at the two divisions late.

The main thing is to assure yourself of General Pernety that the Prince of Moskva has ninety-two guns. I know that his four divisions already have sixteen pieces; but, in order to reach the number of ninety-two, he must have, in addition, twelve pieces of artillery on horseback, and sixteen pieces of twelve. It is very important that these twenty-eight guns, and especially those of twelve , join him without delay. Do the three divisions of the Duke of Ragusa each have their two divisions of artillery, that is to say, their forty-eight pieces? I guess they have them; But that is not enough. They must have the sixteen spare battery pieces and their twelve pieces of horse artillery: this is of the utmost importance,[193]

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We shall then have in the assembled corps of the Prince of Moskva, the Duke of Ragusa and the Guard, forty-eight pieces of heavy caliber. You feel all the importance of it. Take information on this, and speed up as far as possible the departure of all this artillery. I informed the Prince of Moskova that my intention was always to maneuver so as to refuse my right and to press on my left. It appears that on the 10th, the Prince of Moskva, who had troops at Coburg and Baireuth, had no knowledge of the enemy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit .the war,

19858. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN WURZBURG.

Saint-Cloud, April 13, 1813,

I receive your letter of the 10th. You will have received, on the 11th or the 12th, my instructions. On the 15th, General Bertrand had to arrive at Bamberg, with his 1st and 4th divisions, forming 21,000 men of good infantry and 8,000 horses. The King of Wurtemberg unites all his troops at Mergentheim, so that these troops are able to rejoin you promptly. I have no doubt that the King of Saxony has sent his 1,200 cavalrymen on their way to Wurzburg.

In the state of situation you sent me, I see that you have not yet your reserve batteries, which is what annoys me the most, for these batteries of 12 pieces are very important. In the same state of affairs, you only mention, in the article of the cavalry, the 10th of hussars and the Baden regiment, you do not speak of the regiment of Hesse-Darmstadt: would you have forgotten it, Or would you have left it in Aschaffenburg? I guess it's line omission.

The Prince of Neuchâtel left yesterday for Mainz. I have news of Erfurt on the 9th. The Cossacks have not yet arrived at Weimar. If the news of tomorrow confirms a great movement on the part of the enemy, I will leave at the same hour, General Bertrand and the Duke of Istria are under your orders.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19859. - TO FRANCOIS I, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Saint Cloud. April 13, 1813.

Dear Brother and Most Dear Father, The Prince of Schwarzenberg[194]

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handed me your Majesty's letter. I saw him with great pleasure, and I talked a long time with him with the utmost confidence. I can only rely on what he says to Your Majesty. I was very satisfied with General Bubna's conduct during his stay here; I would like your Majesty to give him some mark of his satisfaction.

I am at the moment of going to Mainz; I did not plan to be there before the 20th; but the news that I receive the movements of the enemy on the left bank of the Elbe, decide to hasten my departure a few days. I think, then, that I am at Mainz from the 15th to the 16th. As soon as I have gone into the field, I shall send, through Prague, the order to General Frimont to denounce the armistice and to take under his orders the corps of Prince Poniatowski. I will keep your Majesty informed of the events that will take place. I beg him not to doubt the sincere attachment I attach to him: he is unalterable.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.

19860. - TO THE COUNT DAHU, CHIEF OFFICER OF THE ARMY OF THE MAIN, IN PARIS.

Saint Cloud. April 14, 1813

Count Daru, I send you a letter from the Minister of War Administration who has no common sense: it is painful to be so hindered in every way. See what the horses cost and the other items needed for the ambulances of each battalion. Write to the ordering officers of the three observation corps of the Rhine, and of Italy, and tell them to procure the horses, sackcloths, and other objects. To this end, put funds at their disposal, taking on the funds granted in March, April and May, either for military crews or for anything else, and even on the funds of the pay, if necessary. Write to the minister of the administration of war to make the necessary funds, and let him know that the 1814 forms of conscription battalions which will leave France must also have the necessary funds to procure these horses pack.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru, [195]

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19861. - NOTE DICTED TO COUNT DARU.

St. Cloud • April 1813 (1).

I divide the army in two; I wait a few days before taking the decree.

The army of the Elbe will be composed of the 11th corps; of the corps of the Elbe; the 7th body; of the 8th corps, that is to say the Westphalians and all that is Poles; 1st and 2nd Cavalry Corps; of a division of the Guard, that which is there: it forms the present army.

My intention is that she stays on the Elbe and withdraws to the Harz, covering the kingdom of Westphalia and the 32nd military division: the line of operation by Wesel. It is therefore at Wesel that his artillery depot, his ambulances, his stores must be; it is by Wesel that we must send her everything he needs.

The other army, or army of the hand, will be composed of the 1st and 2nd corps of the Rhine, of the corps of Italy, forming twelve divisions; Bavarians, Wurtembergers, Hessians, and Badois, equivalent to three divisions; most of the Guard.

The 4th corps is suppressed and united to the corps of Italy.

The present 1st and 2nd corps assemble different detachments which are in the forts and do not enter the active army, of a division of sixteen battalions of the 1st corps and another of twelve of the 2nd corps; they are destined for the guard of Magdeburg.

Two other divisions of these corps, formed of the 4th battalions, will meet at the end of May at Mainz and will be part of the Army of the Main.

The 3rd Cavalry Corps will be part of the Main Army Observation Corps.

So much for the first training; as soon as we advance, we will bring together the four divisions of the 1st and 2nd corps; but, as they are very young troops, it will probably form an army for the defense of the coast of the 32nd military division.

The army of the Elbe is commanded by the viceroy; he has the steward and the background of all the old army.

The army of the Main has nothing; she therefore needs a chief editor, a maintenance officer, hospitals, a doctor, chief surgeon, chief pharmacist, and all that is necessary for an army of 200,000 men, for this army, including the Guard and the allies, will pass this number.

1) Assumed 13 or 14 April.[196]

I appointed inspectors for the crews and the military transports.

Daru will be able to go to the army of the Elbe or that of the Main; but if it is only in the Army of the Main, I will name one of my aides-de-camp.

General Sorbier and the commander of the engineers are in the army ofthe Elbe: I will be able to make up for it by one of my aides-de-camp; there would be more than a general or colonel for the direction of the park.

Having employed Haxo to command at Magdeburg, I will have to seek an engineer officer to command.

If I create a steward of the treasure, he will be to that army.

Then this army must remain all the month of April on the Main to form it: it will be only around April 15 that the corps of Italy and the 2nd corps of the Rhine will join it, and that its artillery will be ready .

The headquarters will be in Frankfurt and its depot in Mainz.

The 2nd battalion of crews is intended for the observation corps of the Elbe; the 6th and the 9th, to the observation corps of Italy. It is formed, I believe, two others in France; take note: they will be attached to the Army of the Main. To put under my eyes what I ordered, what we did and what we can add.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

19862. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT NUREMBERG.

St. Cloud, April 14, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I receive your letter of the 10th. It was much more natural to address you to the Prince of Moskova, that you knew how to be at Wurzburg, than to worry the Bavarians, who are already quite shaking. I find too much anxiety and vain precautions in your letter; all this is good only to propagate terror everywhere.

I am pleased to see that your 2nd division will be at Ingolstadt on the 16th: take it quickly to Nuremberg, so that it can join you as soon as possible.

You must have thought that the Bavarian general who was at Bamberg was under the orders of the Prince of Moskva; he was therefore useless to write in Munich. You were well in time to write to the Bavarians[197]

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to make a retrograde movement, when you would have known that the enemy cavalry had arrived at Bamberg, and certainly the Bavarians would have done so without you telling it to you: all that feels weakness. The allies have so little firmness that it would be necessary to try to give them to them, instead of shaking them even more by vain precautions.

I gave an order that he left 300 soldiers from Strasburg to take the horses you have at Augsburg: you must not weaken your infantry. You will have seen by a printed decree all that is relative to the caissons; you only need six by ambulance.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19863. - TO MARSHAL MARMONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN HANAU.

Saint Cloud. April 14, 1813.

I receive your letter of the 11th of April, and I see that on the 12th Compans will be at Fulde, and on the 12th the Bonet division will leave for Eisenach; it may have been there on the 15th. You do not speak to me of the movement of your 3rd division; I suppose that the 15th will also be near Fulde, and that you yourself will have your headquarters at Eisenach.

Gotha is a very beautiful country, where it is necessary to make a meeting of flour on the spot.

I suppose even 3rd division already has its artillery; but what matters is that you have at least one or two companies of light artillery and your reserve batteries: you need a lot of artillery in this war. You must have ninety-two pieces; but sixteen pieces were destined for the 4th Division, which can not yet enter the line; so it must be at least seventy-six.

The Duke of Istria arrives with a division of the Guard on foot and naked on horseback, and about fifty-two pieces of cannon. Thus this corps of army, provisionally forming 40,000 infantry men and 6 to 7,000 horses, will thus have one hundred and twenty-eight pieces of cannon. The 2nd Infantry Division of the Guard, with thirty-eight pieces of cannon, must not delay to join him. By an inconceivable disposition of General Sorbier, sixteen companies which were to arrive from Magdeburg are late; I suppose, however, that they will soon arrive;[198]

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it has nevertheless been provided by the movement of fourteen other companies.

I suppose that the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 37th are on the march to rejoin the Bonet division, and that the 3rd and 4th battalions will not delay; which, added to the six battalions of General Durutte, provisionally sustenance in that division, will bring the number to twenty battalions. It will be necessary to form three brigades, each of six or seven battalions.

According to the minute. Empire Archives •

19861. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÈRES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, IN PARIS,

Mainz, April 17, 1813.

Cousin, I arrived in Mainz in forty hours, very well and without any accident. The Grand Marshal's carriage has not yet joined me. I will stay a few days in Mainz to provide for many things that are missing.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

19865. - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Mainz, April 17, 1813.

As soon as I arrived at Mainz, I wanted Count Daru to give me an account of the treasury department; there reigns the most complete anarchy. I am not surprised that with a lot of money the service is experiencing delays, since there is no kind of organization. Receiver directly sends funds to payers' attendants; the funds come and go from Mainz to Wesel and from Wesel to Mainz. Everything is in the biggest mess. I was forced to waste hours of this chaos and work with the latest clerks. I had planned that. I had already told you that the army of the Main had nothing in common with the army of the Elbe, and that it was necessary that it should have been a separate corps in Mainz; this has not been done: there is only 84,000 francs in the paymaster's account, and we have no information on anything. General Bertrand writes to me that he has no payer; the payer of the 3d corps is only just arriving: thus all the service of the treasury is, I repeat it, in frightful anarchy. If you do not want to consult a map of geography and know that the payer in Magdeburg is in the middle of the operations of armies and can not provide service to Mainz,[199]

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it is impossible to take measures and to have order in the accounts. I will take a decree to try to unravel this chaos; but do not strip the fund of Wesel to garnish that of Mainz; it is a lot of expense and a lot of money lost without any result, It is not the funds which miss here, it is the order.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19866. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 17, 1813.

My Cousin, it is now necessary that nothing be done from Mainz, not even a detachment, without my approval. The line through Wurzburg must be abandoned, and all that is intended for the corps of the prince of the Moskva must go by Fulde and Eisenach. Thus the light artillery, the caissons of military equipages, and all that is destined for this corps d'armee will join it in following the direction which I have just indicated to you, and will not leave Mainz with my approbation.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy, Depot of War,

19867. - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RUGUSE, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN EISENACH

Mainz, April 17, 1813.

Cousin, I have no news of your army corps. The general staff knows neither the number of men you have under arms nor the number of officers who are lacking. The Major General assures that you have sent this to the Minister of War; that's so many rags that will remain in the unanswered offices. Send your status reports and requests to the Prince Major General. Your correspondence with the Minister of War is useless today. Send the state of the vacant places and that of the officers you propose to advance; finally, make known all that is lacking to you, so that I can provide it without delay.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[200]

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19868. - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT EISENACH.

Mainz. April 17, 1813.

I receive at the same time your report, dated Hanau April 10, returning from Paris.

You will find attached the notice of the decrees which I have just made, have these officers recognized at once. It is of the utmost importance that you present good subjects for the vacant places in the marine regiments. That your presentation arrives in twenty-four hours, you will immediately have the decrees, and, without wasting time, you will have these officers recognized. Always take good officers and take them in a regiment to make up for what would be lacking in the other. As soon as I have your report, there will be nothing left to do under this point of view.

Of all the manœuvres, I must recommend to you the most important: it is the folding in square by battalion. It is necessary that the battalion commanders and the captains know how to make this movement with the greatest rapidity; it is the only means of sheltering from cavalry charges and saving a whole regiment. As I suppose these officers are not very maneuvering, have them make the theory of it, and explain it to them every day, so that it becomes extremely familiar to them.

For the 25th Regiment, you always talk about your dispatches to the Minister of War: send me the requests and proposals necessary to complete this regiment. Choose the officers for the 86th in the 47th, and by this means this provisional regiment be completed as officers. You do not speak of the major or colonel who commands the 25th provisional. I write to the minister of war to join the two companies of the 86th which are in the Mayenne.

Give orders that the Spanish battalion should not be sent to detachment and that it should always be under hand, safe from seduction. It must not be used in the service of avant-garde or escort, but always keep it together and in the midst of the French battalions.

On the officers returned from Spain, we will send you the officers you need. Send a summary of what you are missing in Colonels, Majors, Second Majors, Battalion Commanders, Captains, etc.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[201]

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19869. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mainz. April 18, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I see in a report addressed to the Major General by General Lemarois, that on the 7th of April, the 4th battalion of the 46th of the line, with one officer and 448 men, left Wesel for return to Bremen. I can only express to you my surprise and my displeasure at the fact that this battalion has gone off with one officer; it is to send the troops to the butchery and to lose the army.

Artillery and genius do not need you. There is no need for you to take care of the police. Spend six hours a day doing journals and naming all the officer places. All the corps made proposals; you do not answer anything.

From the minute, archives of the Empire.

19870. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM.
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz. April 18, 1813.

My Cousin, the two Polish regiments which I organized by my decree of yesterday, and which are now under the orders of General Dombrowski, will be part of the 4th Division of the 6th Corps, and from then on will be under the command of General Teste. Make it known to this general, who is currently in Giessen. He will thus have under his command six battalions, two regiments of cavalry, and a battery of light artillery. Inform this general that he must carry his headquarters at Marburg, and send officers to the King of Westphalia and General Damascus in the Grand Duchy to inform them that he is ready to go wherever he may be necessary. to restore order. It would be important for General Pernety to supply him with one of the two batteries he should have, which, together with the Polish drums, would make him fourteen pieces. Instruct the King of Westphalia with the presence of General Teste.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Recommend to General Teste to watch over the prompt reorganization of the Polish corps, and not to make him make movements without strong reason.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[202]

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19871. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT BAMBBRG.

Mainz. April 18, 1813.

General Bertrand, carry with you the cavalry you have in your hands and your 1st and 4th divisions on Cobourg. If the Saxon cavalry and the Bavarian cavalry were within your reach, take them with you to reinforce your cavalry, and get ready to carry you from Coburg to Saalfeld and Iena as soon as you receive the order. The prince of the Moskva should be today in Erfurt, the Duke of Ragusa at Eisenach and Gotha, the viceroy to his left at the mouth of the Saale in the Elbe, occupying Bernburg, and his right leaning to the mountains Harz.

If you have Bavarians in your area, push them on Schleiz. You must have been on the 18th at Cobourg; I hope that you will be there at least before the 20th. It is convenient to put you in communication with Erfurt, by which it is probable that you will receive my orders, because I wait only the moment to leave.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19872. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Mainz. April 18, 1813.

Brother, I receive even a letter of April 16 and that of the 17th, at one o'clock in the afternoon. The Duke of Istria must now be at Eisenach, having under his command the Duke of Ragusa and a corps of 50,000 men, all French. The Prince of the Moskva must now be in Erfurt with a corps of 60,000 men. General Bertrand sets out from Bamberg to Cobourg with 60,000 men, two-thirds of whom are French and one-third Italian. I am waiting for the news that this movement is completed to carry me to my outposts. The last letters of the Viceroy are of the 16th; he was then from the left to the Elbe, behind the Saale, and from the right to the Harz. I order General Teste to go to Marburg; he commands the 4th division of the Duke of Ragusa, 6th Corps. This division has only two battalions, and I have just joined four Polish battalions of General Dombrowski, This general will be there in reserve.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.[203]

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19873. - TO FRÉDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT STUTTGART.

Mainz. April 18, 1813.

Brother, I received your Majesty's letter of April 14th. I am pleased to see that your Majesty's division will have arrived at Wurzburg. Baron de Moustier made me aware that what is carried in the state of situation of the Württemberg troops as the third sending will start. I can only thank Your Majesty for this third dispatch. I attach great value to having the cavalry regiments Nos. 2 and 4. The Prussians have raised a great deal of bourgeois cavalry, the men of which mount badly on horseback, but do not worry less about it. According to the last letter of Baron de Moustier, I have reason to hope that the 2nd Cavalry Brigade and the 3rd Infantry will arrive before the 25th at Wurzburg. If your Majesty wished to do me something agreeable and which I would keep a good memory in the circumstances, let it bring together its 5th and 6th regiments of cavalry at Mergentheim of the 20th year 25, and as soon as General Bertrand is at Cobourg and that the enemies will have evacuated Schleiz and Hof, that finally there will be no shadow of fear for the States of your Majesty, that it sends me these regiments in all diligence. Your Majesty must consider that I have such a large quantity of cavalry marching from all parts of France, that 2,000 horses, which will be very precious to me at this moment, would not be sensitive to me in a month. What brings me to accelerate my movement is the desire to protect the States of Your Majesty and Bavaria.

May your Majesty be uneasy about the course of events; I put in motion forces such that they will be double of what I have ever had. The Viceroy was, on the 16th, the left on the Elbe, at the mouth of the Saale, occupying Bernburg, the right leaning on the Harz mountains, his reserve at Magdeburg. General Vandamme is at Hremen; Prince Eckmühl is in front of Celle. At this moment the Duke of Istria, having under his command the Duke of Ragusa, is at the outlets of Eisenach with 60,000 men. The Prince of Moskva, between Erfurt and Meiningen, united his army corps, which numbered 70,000 men, including the divisions of General Marchand. General Bertrand's body was at Bamberg, and he was going to Cobourg. I will therefore open the enemy myself with nearly 200,000 men, not including the 100,000 that the Viceroy has in his hands. The enemy has only 25,000 men in Hof[204]

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and to Schleiz as a squadron. I still do not see what he wants to do; he has only light cavalry against the viceroy; he has only light cavalry on Erfurt; it has not been learned that he has any infantry nearer than Leipzig; this will be cleared up in a few days.

The measure taken by your Majesty to assemble all his troops, besides those of his contingent, on Mergentheim, seems very suitable. No more faith must be given to the rumors spread by the enemy than to his proclamations. If anything comes to your Majesty's knowledge, I beg you to have it informed at once. If your Majesty intends to appoint one of his sons to command his division, I will put him under the direct orders of a marshal.

On the 15th of March the enemy had planned to lay siege to Glogau, and a few siege pieces had been advanced; On the 28th, he renounced this project, and the pieces were sent back to the Silesian squares. I have news of all my places, which, until this moment, remain in a good situation.

I ordered that twenty-two pieces of cannon, forming 150 wagons, were directed from Strasbourg to Stuttgart; I beg your Majesty to push them to Ulm, where General Bertrand will have them taken by the horses he buys at Augsburg. I ordered that the five cadre of the 35th and 36th light, 131st, 132nd and 133rd of line, travel to Ulm by Würzburg; they will receive 4,000 men from Italy to complete them, and from there they will join the army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19874. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mainz, April 19, 1813,

You warned General Vandamme that an English expedition was going to land at the mouth of the Jahde. I beg you to stop making such announcements; it is only good to alarm and alarm everyone; it is the aim of the English. These opinions, even if they were founded, would not arrive in time. If all the convoys we see at sea carried expeditions, we should always be in battle on the coast. All of this does no good and hurts a lot.

According to the minute. Archers of the Empire.[205]

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19875. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 19, 1813.

Cousin, see an officer in the Bavarian general who commands the Bavarian corps which is part of the Grand Army and consists of ten battalions, twelve squadrons and sixteen pieces of artillery, and must be in Bamberg, for him to make known that he is under the orders of General Bértrand, and that this general having orders to go to Cobourg, I wish him to concentrate his whole corps on the heights of Ebersdorf, occupying the bridge of the Saale, and illuminating Schleiz by patrols. General Bertrand will also occupy Saalfeld, so as to keep himself in communication. Ask the Bavarian general to send you an officer who is in a position to make you well acquainted with the situation of his troops from all points of view; Tell him that his majesty commands his own army, and hopes that all the hesitations which the allies have had in the last days for the unity of the command will not take place henceforth.

Announce to General Marchand that a Württemberg brigade arrives at Würzburg on the 20th; that you give the order that she goes to Hildburghausen, where it is necessary that he sends her subsequent orders. Also inform the prince of Moskova of this disposition.

Tell Prince Emile that he must leave without delay to return to Wurzburg on the 20th. He will put himself there with the Wurtembergeoise column, in order not to walk in isolation, and from thence will go with her to Hildburghausen, where he will find his division. Order General Marchand to assemble all the troops of Hesse and place them under the orders of Prince Emile. These troops will serve them better, and the prince will be more satisfied.

Order also General Marchand to assemble the Wurtemberger regiment at his division. By this means he will have two divisions; one from Württemberg and one from Badois, Hessois and Prince Primate's troops. He will put the battalion of Prince Primate with that of the two Hessian or Badischer brigades, which will be the weakest.

Send to the Prince of the Moskva that his body should not occupy Gotha, so that this place can serve the troops of the Duke of Ragusa and the Duke of Istria.

Let the Duke of Istria know that he is taking the biggest[206]

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measures to ensure that Gotha's communications at Erfurt are safe. If there are any bridges, he must have drums built on the spot so that the guard-houses are safe from the Cossacks. Recommend that he ensure that the artillery convoys and the military crews go from one place to another to the other place only well escorted, Write the same thing to the Prince of the Moskva; that until we have taken the line of the Saale and cast off the enemy on the right bank of this river, it is to be feared that we may be disturbed by his light cavalry. The officer whom you will send to General Bertrand and to General Marchand will come back to you by Cobourg at Erfurt or at Gotha, where I will probably be in a few days.

Send a letter to the King of Bavaria. I send you dispatches from General Bertrand; write to the king. Let him know the orders you give to his contingent, and the immensity of our forces. Ask the king why he does not send General Wrede to command his troops. Is this general sick? The same courier will pass through Regensburg, where he will carry letters to Baron Serra. Write also to the King of Saxony that I have asked for his cavalry, that it is very necessary for her to join either General Bertrand or the Prince of Moskova. In writing to the King of Saxony, tell him that General Reynier has returned to take command of the 7th Corps; that as soon as the communications are reopened he will go to Torgau; that I desire the King to give positive orders so that all the uncertainties which have arisen in recent times no longer take place, and that the place and the troops are under my orders without the least reticence. You will send by these express the following note to my various ministers in Wurzburg, Regensburg and Stuttgart.

NAPOLEON.

POSITION OF THE GREAT ARMY.

(Note to the Ministers of France, Munich, Stuttgart) Würzburg and Regensburg.)

The viceroy has his left on the Elbe, at the mouth of the Saale, occupying Bernburg; his right on the Harz, his reserve at Magdeburg.

Prince Eckmühl is ahead of Celle. General Vandamme has his vanguard in Bremen.

The Army of the Main began to move.

The 4th corps is on Cobourg.

The Prince of Moskova: arrived on the 18th at Erfurt.[207]

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The Duke of Ragusa is at Gotha; the Duke of Istria and the Guard at Eisenach.
The Emperor was still the 18th at Mainz. The big headquarters is on the march for Gotha.
From the original. Deposit of the war,

19876. - TO MARSHAL BESSIERE, DUKE OF ISTRIA, COMMANDING THE IMPERIAL GUARD, AT EISENACH.

Mainz, April 19, 1813.

Cousin, the Major-General had to dispatch an officer to inform you that a corps of partisans of three to four squadrons, of six pieces of cannon, and of two or three battalions, had attacked Mühlhuusen and Wanfried; that the Westphalian general Hammerstein was afraid of being seriously attacked and feared that he would have to go to Witzenhausen, which gave the King much anxiety in Kassel. I hope that the arrival of General Souham, on the 17th, at Gotha, and that of General Bonet, who, it seems to me. had to be on the evening of the 17th at Eisenach, have slowed the march of the enemy; I hope that you, having arrived at Eisenach, will have gone to the rear of the enemy to clear the Westphalian general and to tranquilise Cassel on that side. This is all the more important as these parties, on our left flank, would disturb our communications with Erfurt. As soon as you arrive at Eisenach, put several corps of infantry and cavalry on the rear of the enemy, and disengage General Hammerstein.

Write to the King, in Kassel, to let him know your movement and reassure him. The prince of the Moskova being already on Erfurt, the movements which you will be able to do on the rear of the enemy will be of a happy effect, and may give rise to some saber-strikes and the capture of some enemy battalions; General Lefebvre-Desnoëtles seems to me very suitable for this expedition, but support it by infantry; finally have everything done; This is very important, for it would be a great misfortune if the King were obliged to evacuate Cassel.

NAPOLEON,

According to the original comm. by Madame the Maréchale Duchess of Istria.[208]

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19877. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT BAMBBRG.

Mainz, April 19, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I receive your letter of April 17th.

I am very surprised at the conduct of the Bavarian general. Give him on my behalf written orders to unite his whole corps, cavalry and infantry, that is to say in Bamberg, or what is at Baireuth, and with his ten battalions, his artillery, and his cavalry, to go on the heights of Ebersdorf, so as to take a military position which dominates the Saale, to guard the Saale bridge and to occupy Schleiz by a vanguard of light troops, and to communicate with you on Saalfeld. Let him know that you are going to Coburg, and that you will immediately push a strong vanguard on Saalfeld to establish this communication. Let him know that the prince of the Moskva arrived with his army corps at Erfurt, and the Duke of Istria with the Duke of Ragusa at Gotba. Lead the Saxons with you, because walking alone could be harmful, instead of leading them to Coburg it will be a reinforcement for you and it will have all kinds of good results.

At Erfurt, where I have told you that the Prince of the Moskva has arrived, one has never seen an enemy infantry. The whole army of this prince, composed of 60,000 men, meets there. The corps of the Duke of Istria, who has under his command the Duke of Ragusa, is more than 50,000 men. I do not know the order the Prince of Moskova gave General Marchand: I suppose that as soon as you reach Coburg he will go to Gehren. You will arrive on the 19th or the 20th at Cobourg. Make a good vanguard of good marchers, under the orders of a good brigadier general, and send an acknowledgment to Saalfeld. From Coburg you will be communicating on Erfurt. You will draw food from Hildburghausen and Coburg; you have to form a big shop. Let the Bavarians come to Ebersdorf only when your vanguard arrives at Saalfeld. The Viceroy was, on the 16th, left leaning on the Elbe at the mouth of the Saale, the right on the Harz, the center on Bernburg, and its reserve at Magdeburg.

Here is the information I receive from both the Viceroy and the Prince of the Moskva. The enemy has passed the Elbe only with the corps of Wittgenstein, which can be estimated at 10,000 infantrymen, the corp of Winzingerode, which can be estimated at 6,000 men (which[209]

made 16,000 Russians), with the Prussian corps of General York, which can be calculated at 15,000 men, and Blücher's corps of equal strength. It appears, therefore, that the enemy has 60 to 70,000 men, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, on the left bank of the Elbe. It seems that his great headquarters had not yet passed the Oder, and that the troops were employed to observe the Austrians and to hide the places of the Vistula and Oder.

Write to the Prince de la Moskova and General Marchand to be an intermediary between the vanguard on Saalfeld and Erfurt. The prince of the Moskva must have a division on the heights of Weimar.

Always keep four days of bread, so that you may walk, if necessary, to support the prince of the Moskva. Bring Bamberg and Hildburghausen flours; have them made at Cobourg, and let your troops lack nothing.

You did not realize that the marching battalion which was in the citadel of Würzburg was incorporated into your various regiments, in accordance with the orders I had given.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19878. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Mainz, April 19, 1813.

Brother, I receive your letter from the 18th at noon. On the 17th, the Souham division was in Gotha. On the evening of the 17th Bonet's division had arrived at Eisenach with General Lefebvre-Desnoettes, commander of the cavalry of my Guard. I suppose that the corps of enemies that was pushing on you will have withdrawn. I suppose you will have warned Eisenach directly about this move. However, after receiving your letter, I ordered officers to leave the Dukes of Istria and Ragusa to leave the world behind in the rear of the enemy, who is walking on you. I suppose that at the present time the Prince of Moskva is at Erfurt with the greater part of his army corps; all his divisions are walking on him and must have joined him. The Dukes of Istria and Ragusa are in Eisenach and Gotha. I have news of General Vandamrne of the 16th of Bremen.

Instruct the viceroy, by the means which you judge most prompt, of all this news.

As soon as you are cleared towards Erfurt by the presence[210]

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from all the army, and that everything will be cleared between Erfurt and you, I think you must march towards Hanover with all your strength. You can not have the six battalions you requested; but General Teste will have marched on Cassel with the two French battalions he has. As for the Poles, they need to recover. You must at this moment feel what I have always felt for you, the inconvenience of not having at Cassel a guard of 4,000 French, whom it would have been easy for you to form, as the King of France did. Spain and the King of Naples.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19879. - TO LOUIS X, GRAND DUKE OF HESSE-DAHMSTADT, A DARMSTADT.

Mainz, April 19, 1813.

Brother, I received your letter of April 14th. I would have had great pleasure in seeing your Highness at Mainz, and I am sorry that it is the bad state of his health which prevents him from going there.

I thank Highness for having sent me on this occasion her sons, the hereditary prince, and Prince Emile; I always see them with pleasure near me.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19880. - TO MAXIMILIEN-JOSEPH, KING OF BAVARIA, AT MUNICH.

Mayence, April 20, 1813, morning.

Brother, I send General de Flahault to Regensburg. I charge him with this letter for your Majesty, to announce to him my arrival at Mayence, and my departure for Erfurt, where the Prince of the Moskva has arrived. I beg your Majesty, if it has no reason to the contrary, to send General de Wrede to command his troops, and, nevertheless, to give his generals such orders, that there is no reluctance, and that they obey my orders without any reserve. I ordered that all Bavarian cavalry, infantry, and artillery should assemble in the heights of Ebersdorf, that they should occupy the bridge of the Saale, and that they should communicate with General Bertrand, who is going to in Coburg and Saalfeld. I can not recommend too much to your Majesty to push forward all the cavalry she can.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[211]

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19881. - TO FRÉDÉRIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY (1)
To RATISBONNE.

Mainz. April 20, 1813, eleven o'clock in the morning.

The Baron de Lauriston is coming to Mainz at this moment without a reply from your Majesty, so that I do not know whether the 800 cavalry men who are so precious to me are on the march, and I have not their route. I suppose that your Majesty will have set them in motion, and that I will not delay in receiving his answer.

I will enter the campaign; the Prince of the Moskva has already entered Erfurt and Weimar, and the want of this cavalry hurts me a great deal.

I beg your Majesty, if it persists in the political party which it has taken, to send me at once all the cavalry of which it may dispose; it is the only help that I can expect from him, and it is what he can do most favorably to deliver his states.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19882. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT BAMBBRG.

Mainz. April 20, 1813.

General Bertrand, a Prussian general, named Heister, arrived at Regensburg, on the pretext of a mission near the King of Saxony, and probably to spy on us, to write to the Bavarians to try to stop him.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

19883, - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA,
A CASSEL

Mayence, April 20, 1813

Brother, the last news I have from Eisenach is from the 18th.

Or was there any knowledge of the march of any corps on you, and. on the contrary, I was informed that General Hammerstein was at Heiligenstadt. The Prince of Moskova arrived on the 17th at Erfurt, and proposed to occupy Weimar on the 18th. I myself will begin my march without delay. The Viceroy writes to me on the 17th, supporters who had crossed the Elbe. The Württemberg division

1) Letter delivered by General de Flahault.[212]

arrives today in Würzburg. General Bertrand, with 60,000 men, arrives at Cobourg. 20,000 men of my Guard must have left Fulde: they follow the march of the Duke of Ragusa. The head of 20,000 others arrives at this moment in Mainz, and they will have arrived in five days. From one moment to another, I will go from my person to Eisenach. They say your troops are deserting a lot; let me know the truth of this and how well it is founded. Let General Vandamme know that the army is in motion, and that I myself arrive at Weimar.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19884. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Maynce, April 20, 1813, five o'clock, afternoon.

Brother, I receive your letter of the 19th, at noon. General Teste has only two battalions; I see with pleasure that he has made them advance. I order him to go to Cassel with his person. He is a good officer; you will be able to complete a division with your troops until the rest of his troops arrive, which will be in May. I have just received letters from Eisenach from the evening of the 18th. Bonet's division was already at Gotha; the Compans division was in Eisenach. The opinion of these general officers was that there were only partisans on their left. I fear that General Hammerstein will see ghosts and let his spies dictate them. However, I hope that at present he will have established his communications with the dukes of Ragusa and Istria, which must have been on the 19th at Eisenach. I'm planning to leave soon. Send me your important dispatches by duplicate on Mainz, until you learn my departure.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome,

19885. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 20, 1813 in the evening.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I repeat that my intentions are to recall Baron Serra. I have no doubt not only that he has no influence over Saxony, but that his[213]

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language gives rise to false ideas of our resources and our means.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19886. - TO FRÉDÉRIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY (1),
AT RATISBONNE.

Mainz, April 20, 1813, in the evening.

Brother, your Majesty's letter has made me feel sorry for you. He has no more friendship for me; I accuse the enemies of our cause who may be in his cabinet. I need all his cavalry and all his officers. I have said what I thought, with that frankness which Your Majesty knows me, to his aide-de-camp; I am referring to him; but, whatever may be the event, may your Majesty count on the esteem he has inspired me, and which is safe from all.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19887. - TO THE COUNT GERMAIN,
PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER PRESIDE THE GRAND DUKE OF WURZBURG.

Mainz. April 20, 1813, in the evening.

I receive the letter you wrote on the 19th to the Duke of Bassano. The conjectures made about the fidelity of the King of Saxony are absurd; we know neither the sentiments nor the probity of this prince. You must deny these noises with all your might. You will have seen General Flahault, who will have made known to you my intentions. Send agents through Bohemia and Saxony, and keep me informed of all movements.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19888. - TO THE BARON OF SAINT-AIGNAN,
PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER NEAR THE DUCAL SAXIAN HOMES, IN WEIMAR.

Mainz. April 20, 1813, in the evening,

I receive the letter you wrote on the 19th to the Duke of Bassano.

Go to Gotha immediately and, as soon as you can, to Weimar. Do not engage in the conduct I want to hold with these governments. I'm surprised they let them take their

1) Letter delivered to a king's aide-de-camp.[214]

contingent, and that they remained in their countries while they were occupied by the Russians. So stay on the reserve. Send spies on all sides, and find out where the enemy is.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19889. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE. GREAT ARMY, TO ERFURT.

Mainz. April 20, 1813, ten o'clock in the evening.

I receive your letter of the 18th. The orderly officer Laplace, who left you on the 19th, at ten o'clock in the morning, reports to me on your situation in Erfurt. I am surprised that you have no news of the enemy and that you do not know if he has a lot of infantry on the side of Leipzig. I suppose we will have information at the Weimar court.

I can not recommend you to work on the construction of the ovens. We need two handlings, that is, twenty-four ovens. Have biscuit bread made in all areas and bring it to Erfurt.

Do not occupy Gotha, which must be left to other bodies. Recommend to General Souham not to leave his cavalry without infantry, and the infantry he would have with this cavalry, it is necessary that he withdraws himself and posts himself with the greatest circumspection, so as not to have a clash of cavalry. Choose a good battlefield near Erfurt; have the plan lifted and send it to me, as well as the plans for redoubts to be made there.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19890. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, AT PA.RIS.

Mainz, April 21, 1813.

My Cousin, it is necessary that the Regent does not sign anything about the guards of honor, unless urgent. You will send me all the work directly; otherwise, the minister of war will pull me out of the army of men who are necessary for me, to place them there.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the Duke of Cambaceres[215]

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19891. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO;
MINISTER OF REI.ATIONS EXTERIURES, ERFURT.

Mainz. April 21, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I am very unhappy that one of your couriers has passed through Mainz without going to the Grand Esquire, and that he has continued his journey with Kaiserslautern, notwithstanding the order that M. de Rumigny gave to go back.

NAPOLEON

P.S. I look forward to sending you what the courier of Vienna who was here on the 19th was carrying. I have reason to believe that he was carrying important things.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

19892. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS,
COMMANDING THE 25th MILITARY DIVISION, IN WESEL.

Mainz, April 21, 1813.

Count Lemarois, I receive your letter of the 16th. The police commissioner of Aubignose gives false and ridiculous news. Make him understand that it is necessary to give reliable news; that war is not the police, and that all he says about Blücher's march is absurd.

The corps of the Prince of Moskova, 60,000 strong, is in front of Erfurt; his vanguard, commanded by General Souham, is in Weimar. 300 Prussian hussars were overthrown by the 10th hussars: they took 60 men and 4 officers, including Blücher's aide-de-camp. The enemy has no infantry on the left bank of the Saale. The due of Ragusa is in Gotha with the 6th corps. The Duke of Istria is with the Guard at Eisenach. General Bertrand, with the 4th corps, is at Cobourg. The viceroy is in the same position: his left leaning on the Elbe, at the mouth of the Saale, his center at Bernburg and his right at Harz. Send this to General Vandamme, and, in Holland, to the architect, the habit is to be very frightened.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Count Lemarois.

19893. - TO FRÉDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBEBG, IN STUTTGART.

Mainz. April 21, 1813

Brother, I receive your Majesty's letter. Because[216]

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can not send me more than his contingent, so I rely on his zeal and his attachment to the common cause to complete it as soon as possible; I wish it to be at the beginning of May, and that, meanwhile, to bring it together at Mergentheim.

I noticed a phrase in your majesty's letter, which fixed my attention; it is this: "An official news, coming from Rutisbonne, assures that the fortress of Torgau has capitulated." Now I have news of Torgau of the 19th, my troops having entered yesterday at Weimar, and we do not knew nothing of that in Torgau. So there is mystery there. Your Majesty's sentence is too precise; it would have been capitulated to Regensburg. I pray Your. Majesty to tell me wholeheartedly everything he knows about it.

NAPOLEON.

According to a copy comm. by the government of His Majesty the King of Württemberg

19894. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND, COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN COBOURG.

Mainz, April 23, 1813, in the morning,

Count Bertrand, I receive your letter of April 21 from Cobourg. I do not see any news of the enemy, or anything you have learned from Coburg. I do not know what you mean by the execution of the requisitions for the 24th. If it is for horses, I have made you say that you should not transport wagons beyond the Danube except bound; if your requisitions are for subsistence, there is no doubt that one must live, and it is impossible for the Bavarian authorities to refuse to do so.

I notice that you never indicate in the date of your letters the time at which you write them.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original comm, by General Count Henry Bertrand,

19895. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mainz. April 23, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, answer the King of Spain, whom I have given him the command in chief of my army; that I am surprised, after that, with perpetual complaints that he is not being obeyed; that this is because he confounds the King of Spain and the Commander-in-Chief of my army; that I do not hear that my armies never depend on the Spanish ministers, to whom I have the right not to[217]

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proud, and who are very indifferent to the fate of my soldiers; that the orders he will give to the generals and officers of my armies shall be executed punctually if they are transmitted by Marshal Jourdan for military operations, and by the authorizing officer Mathieu Faviers for administrative affairs; but that Minister O'Fanill, and all others, should not be employed in these relations, and that it is not my intention that my troops should in any way depend on the Spanish administration.

Moreover, tell him that he should expect nothing from me in the present circumstances of France, except the part of the balance which is brought to the budget; that it is indispensable, therefore, 1st) that he remove from his regulations all that would make the subsistence of my troops available to the Spanish agents; 2nd) That he should transmit to the generals his orders for the safety and the movement of armies by Marshal Jourdan, and those concerning the administration by the orderly Mathieu Faviers.

Write in this direction to Marshal Jourdan and the ordering officer Faviers. I can not name this intendant; but he is chief editor, and the others are ordering army corps. The King is general-in-chief, and the other generals command corps. Also write in this sense to all army commanders.

Remind the King of the instructions you sent him on the necessity of supplying Burgos and Sautona and forming stores. Answer to him finally that, to command an army, it is necessary to take care of it incessantly, to go to the news, to provide everything, and that I see with difficulty that it is the opposite that it has done for four month; that he has left the troops in idleness, instead of employing them to restore order in Navarre and its rear, which would make them now available to repel the efforts of the English; but that, under the present circumstances, his first duty is to have news of Bayonne every day, by making the quarter-turn run at the rate of one league an hour, which is easy with a succession of well-established posts; that in Valladolid we would have news of Bayonne in four days, and the courier would not leave until every two days; we would still have news every five or six days; that this is of great necessity.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[218]

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19896. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 23, 1813.

My cousin, order that the 6th battalion of the 134th, well dressed, well armed, and forming from 7 to 800 men, leave for Wurzburg, where he will remain in garrison in the citadel. This battalion, joined to the battalions of 127th, 128th and 129th therein, will bring the French garrison of this place to 1,500 men; which, with the battalion of Prince Primate and the troops of Wurzburg, will make a total of 3,000 men. I also ordered that the artillery company be completed to 100 men. I suppose there is an engineer officer and an artillery officer in this place. I will complete the armament of the citadel. You must have sent a second colonel there to take command.

Order the commander to make the service of the escorts by the troops of Prince Primate and Wurzburg, and keep intact the French troops in the citadel, especially the 134th, which is to be completed there. Recommend to the commander to close the gates of the city at night, and to be able to defend the citadel, and even the city, against any party of enemy light troops that may arise.

I order General Delaborde to go to Wurzburg to command the fourteen battalions of Guardsmen who receive the conscripts of the six years. These battalions will travel to Würzburg as they meet in Mainz.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19897. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL, GREAT MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 23, 1813.

The division of General Delaborde, composed of the fourteen battalions of voltigeurs who dress and organize themselves in Mainz, will meet at Wurzburg. You will order General Decous to join the two battalions of the Old Guard which are now at Frankfort: he will join the battalion of flankers- chasseurs when it arrives; and the battalions which form the 1st brigade of General Barrois, with the reserve batteries and a company of the train, will continue their road to go to Eisenach, and you[219]

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will know when they get there. One of the two brigades, or General Mouton, or General Boyeldieu, will meet at Hanau, and the other at Frankfurt. The first arrival of the two will be the one that will go to Hanau. General Barrois will carry his headquarters on the 26th at Hanau, and will set in motion on the 29th for Eisenach, with a battery of mounted artillery and three artillery batteries on foot, independently of the two reserves which the brigade has brought. On the same day, under the orders of General Barrois, send out 1,000 to 1,200 horses. Give a state of all this movement to the Major General.

I also want you to give the Major General a complete state of the Guard, as it is today: Roguet's division, which has no number, but which is known as the Old Guard Division: 1st, the 1st Division, commanded by General Dumoustier; 3rd, the 2nd, commanded by General Barrois; 4th, the 3rd, commanded by General Delaborde; 5th, the 4th which is formed in Paris.

As soon as I can train my old Guard, you will bring together the six battalions I have at this moment, and the two that are in Paris. Order that these two battalions, as soon as they are dressed and re-equipped, join us in post. These eight battalions will form 3,200 old Guard men; they will be commanded by General Roguet. This division, as an old Guard, seems to me sufficient; to increase it would be to embarrass uselessly. The Dumoustier division will be composed of fourteen battalions; the Barrois division will also be composed of fourteen battalions, giving him the two who are in the Roguet division, and finally the two other divisions to be formed will also be fourteen. The five divisions will form sixty-two battalions, which makes the value of 30 to 36,000 men under arms and a force of 30,000 men.

Artillery. I settled the organization of the artillery. It is now necessary that you make a report to me to know when batteries will be attached to the 3rd and 4th division. Of course, these two divisions must have neither a battery nor a reserve battery; they must have only the batteries on foot, as I have designated them.

Military crews. I have ten military crews; these ten companies are for the service of the old Guard and the two divisions forward. I think that two new companies should be organized for the Delaborde division and the 4th, These divisions will each have six ambulance caissons. So it's an 11th and a 12th company[220]

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which can be organized in Frankfurt. Men can be caught in the Paris depots already belonging to the Guard, the horses and harnesses in Frankfurt, and the wagons in Metz.

I also ask you to settle all that is related to the music of these corps. I suppose the regiments of the old Guard will each have their own music, and the others will have music for six battalions. Thus it would be necessary that the regiment of the riflemen-grenadiers and that of the flankers-grenadiers had a music; that the regiments flankers- chasseurs and fusiliers - chasseurs had other music; the first three regiments of tirailleurs, a music; the 4th, 5th and 6th, a music; the 7th, 8th, 9th, a music; the 10th, 11th, 12th, a music; which makes six musics for the gun of the chasseurs, and six musics for the grenadiers; total, twelve musics for all the Guard on foot.

I have settled all that is relative to the sappers.

I do not need to rule on everything that should be on pack horses; only, recommend General Michel and General Curial to make the funds and to organize this service.

My twelve military crews can easily provide the eight ambulances that the Guard must have and employ only 18 caissons. There will remain more than 400 wagons, which can load 6,000 quintals of flour, that is to say more than 600,000 rations, or food for the Guard for fifteen to twenty days.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19898. - TO PRINCE CAMBACHEHES, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Mainz, April 24, 1813.

Cousin, I am leaving tonight at eight o'clock to go to Erfurt, where I will be in the day of tomorrow, 25. There is nothing new. It seems that the enemy replaces the posts he had on the right of the Saale. The Viceroy sent me to Bernburg, on the lower Saale, that the enemy was going to great lengths before him; it is thought that he will return to the Elbe; but these conjectures are hazardous. I send you a copy of a letter from General Sebastiani to the Viceroy, where you will see the details of an unimportant affair, but which gives a glimpse of the situation of things on this side. This general advanced to force the enemy to withdraw behind the lower Elbe. Meanwhile, General Vandamme organizes his corps.[221]

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Urge the Ministers of War and the Administration of War to remove the cavalry detachments from the depots. All of this goes slowly.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres

19899. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, AT PA.RIS,

Mainz, April 24, 1813.

I have reason to be pleased with Austria's intentions. I do not suspect his dispositions; however, my intention is to be able and not to depend on it. The vulnerable part with regard to Austria is my kingdom of Italy; my intention is as soon as possible to dismiss the Viceroy there.

Take care of all the ways to train line army in Italy.

This army must be composed of the observation corps of Verona, of which the six old regiments which are in Italy belong. Complete the cadres in officers and non-commissioned officers, so that they offer twenty-four complete battalions, with majors, captains, etc. As for the guns, at the rate of two pieces of six per regiment, that will form twelve pieces of cannon. The 14th Light and the 6th Light would each form a battalion, organize them. The battalions of the three provisional demi-brigades which meet in Piedmont would carry these battalions to thirty-five battalions; it is already an army beginning. The Kingdom of Italy must be able to provide twenty or twenty-four battalions for a war in Italy. Finally, write to Naples so that, besides his contingent, the King of Naples should have a corps of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, which he would not march unless Austria became suspicious; otherwise, he would only provide his contingent. Write directly to the King on this subject.

Thus, independently of the observation corps of Verona, which I carried to sixty-four battalions, there would be more than ten Italian battalions and ten Neapolitan battalions. Finally, under such extraordinary circumstances, I will march the demi-brigades destined for the guardianship of Toulon, and those destined for the guardianship of Brittany. I expect to have there an army of 80,000 infantrymen.

Make me two states: one of Verona's observation corps, destined to enter Germany; the other of the corps, more especially in charge of the defense of Italy, which should be completed to a hundred battalions.

The corps of Verona would be divided into four divisions, the other corps into two; in all, six active divisions.[222]

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I ordered to buy 1,000 horses in Switzerland, and in Carinthia 1,500 horses for the artillery of the Army of Italy. These 1,500 horses would form six companies of the train; lead them to Turin and Verona. There must also be two pontoon companies and three horse artillery companies. Ninety-eight guns are sufficient; which, together with thirty pieces furnished by Italy, would make one hundred and twenty-eight guns. 1,000 Neapolitan horses, 2,000 Italian horses would need 2 to 3,000 French horses to carry the cavalry to 5 or 6,000 men, which is enough for this country. I would provide them if Austria's intentions became suspicious.

I ordered to buy 1,500 horses in Frankfurt; this will be enough for the Mainz observation corps. In the event of war with Austria, this corps, with the Bavarians and the Wurtembergers, would make a corps on the Elbe.

Make sure that the offices present a project, for an extraordinary eyelash of war with Austria, to have a hundred battalions and one hundred and twenty-eight guns, including the French, the Italians and the Neapolitans, and that the body Mainz will be strengthened to keep borders and strongholds.

As for the generals, order that those of Spain come to Paris in office. I will appoint four generals to go to Italy. Italy especially must occupy you.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19900. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz, April 24, 1813.

Cousin, order the Duke of Reggio to leave for Bamberg tomorrow morning. He will take command of the 2nd and 3rd divisions of the 4th Corps, which have the general number of 13th and 14th Division of the Grand Army: the 13th, commanded by General Pacthod, and the 14th by General Lorencez; one of fifteen battalions, the other of fourteen. He will have the artillery attached to these two divisions and one of the two reserve batteries of the 4th corps. His corps will take the number of the 12th Corps of the Grand Army. You will let him know the itinerary of the one and the other of these divisions. You will attach to his corps one of the military equipment companies of the Ife Corps. This corps will then be definitively formed, when we have fled our meeting with the corps of the Elbe. I suppose[223]

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that his corps will arrive in the day of the 26th. You will inform General Bertrand of this change. The 4th corps will be composed of only two divisions: the Morand division and the Italian division. General Ruty will command the artillery of the 12th Corps. You will order him to be returned to Bamberg tomorrow.

You will inform the Marshal Duke of Reggio that General Bertrand was ordered to carry himself with his two divisions on Saalfeld, where his vanguard arrived on the 22nd, and where he himself will arrive today, 24th, and tomorrow; that the Duke de Reggio must occupy Cobourg, to be immediately in communication with General Bertrand, to assemble the 12th corps, and to be able to support General Bertrand in his position at Saalfeld.

Inform the duke of Reggio of the position of the army and that of General Marchand; that I will have my headquarters at Erfurt tomorrow; that the Bavarians occupy Bamberg and Baireuth, that they seem to have no other order of their sovereign than to guard their frontiers; that he must at least draw all the information they have on the position of the enemy on the right; that in case of General Bertrand's meeting on Saalfeld with General Marchand or any other, the oldest will have the command; that he allows General Bertrand to continue the details of the organization of his artillery and the military crews at Augsburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19901. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Mainz, April 24, 1813.

Brother, I leave at seven in the evening to go to Frankfurt after ten o'clock. I will continue my journey without stopping to Erfurt. I will see you with pleasure as soon as your presence is more necessary in Cassel. I think that at this moment there might be a disadvantage that you leave this city; but as soon as the enemy is rejected on the right bank of the Saale, and the left bank is entirely free of enemy parties, I shall see you with great pleasure.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.[224]

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19902. - TO FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, IN STUTTGART

Mainz. April 24, 1813

Brother, I receive your Majesty's letter of April 23rd. I thank HIM for the information he gives me about Torgau. If the news is sure, I am surprised that the King of Saxony has not made it known to me; but it seems that there are many intrigues with this respectable sovereign. I send this letter to Your Majesty so that he may inform me of the first news he will receive, whether from the enemy, from Saxony, or from Austria. I beg Your Majesty to inform me what, in the last analysis, he thinks of Austria's provisions. Prince Schwarzenberg has brought me the most positive assurances, and the Emperor writes in the same direction to the Empress. I asked Prince von Schwarzenberg if the corps of General Frimont, who is on the side of Krakow, is under my orders; on his affirmative reply, I have just warned the Austrian general to be ready to denounce the armistice when I send him the advice; and, indeed, I will send him the order as soon as I have passed the Saale.

In the proposals made by Austria, he experienced no obstacle on my part; but Prince Schwarzenberg, who delayed his departure for a long time to await the answer of the Emperor of Russia, assured me that he had not come. A proposal had been made by Austria to convene a congress at Prague, and I had adhered to it with all my heart; but it seems that Russia has not answered.

Perhaps it would not be out of place for your Majesty and the King of Bavaria to make some representations to the court of Saxony to induce him to persist in the system of Confederation. I have not yet said anything to Bavaria, that I am assured of being very much surprised at the departure of the King of Saxony. I will wait to know what your Majesty's opinion is about it.

I'm leaving tonight to be tomorrow in Erfurt.

The news of the viceroy, who always has his left at the mouth of the Saale, and his right at the Harz, are that the enemy is bald in front of him. The opinion of this headquarters is that the enemy is approaching his Dessau bridges. All my year, except for a division of the Guard, which will arrive today at Frankfurt, and the 12th corps, commanded by the Duke of Reggio, whose headquarters will be tomorrow or after at Bamberg, passed the mountains of Thuringia . Your Majesty ought to believe any of the news you have in Germany; and as long as the war is below the Elbe[225]

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he can be certain that I will warn him directly of any event that might interest him. It interests him too much so that I do not do it with pleasure.

I would be in a position to finish business very quickly, if I had 15,000 more cavalry; but I am a little weak in that weapon. The first goal of my operations is to throw the enemy on the right of the Saale, after on the right of the Mulde and even on the right of the Elbe. I have more than 30,000 cavalry men on the move, who will join in the course of May. At Mayence, at the end of May, there will be sixty-four battalions, forming four divisions under the title of Corps de Observation de Mayence; this corps will be composed of conscripts of the six years I have just risen and conscripts of 1814, placed in excellent settings from Spain. They will have their artillery, their cavalry. I will also have two divisions of my Guard, of fourteen battalions each, including one at Wurzburg, where it will be commanded by General Delaborde, and the other at Aschaffenburg. I will have at the same time, assembled on the Adige, the observation corps of Verona, with eighty battalions, my intention is to leave these troops on my rear during June and July. I announce this to your Majesty for his tranquility.

All possible calculations lead me to think that Austria will persist in her system or be neutral; but, if it declared itself against me, I believe myself, in the month of July, a delay which it would be necessary for itself to prepare, in a position to face this increase of forces against me.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19903. - TO GENERAL DUROC, DUKE OF FRIOUL,
GREAT MARSHAL OF THE PALACE, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt. April 25, 1813,

Order the commissioner of war and the commander of the place to make bread in the night and in the day of tomorrow, so that there will be 50,000 bread rations in Erfurt tomorrow evening, If the inhabitants had the means To do it without the provision of flours, the steward could tax the bread they would provide and pay cash. Thus, if the inhabitants could undertake to provide 200,000 rations of bread, at a rate of 50,000 per day, as of tomorrow, they would be paid these 200,000 rations[226]

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at the price which would be determined according to the mercuriales, and the payment would be made on the spot.

There are only siege supplies to which I do not wish to squint; there is no reserve supply: it is of utmost importance to have one. Get together this night and two or three of the main members of the administration of the country, as well as the commissioner of war, and advise what steps you must take to arrive at this result. The first result is that 50,000 rations of bread are needed tomorrow, and that I need four hundred thousand in the four-day space. It is said that one can make 100,000 rations of bread a day here. What the inhabitants would furnish, I would have it paid in cash, at the price which will be settled in this assembly which you will hold, and, as I have told you, according to the mercuriales. As a result, the inhabitants should supply 50,000 rations of good ammunition tomorrow, and so on for three days. It must be known whether, with the cash payment that I will make, they could continue this supply, since they could replenish themselves.

My intention is to have 2 million rations of flour in Erfurt, as much brandy, as much live meat, and finally to have 2 million bushels of oats. How can the distribution of all these quantities be divided among all the neighboring countries? I asked Gotha for 3,000 quintals of flour and 7,000 grains, rye and wheat, 100,000 bushels of oats, and a million rations of meat. If money were needed to arrive promptly at this result, and to pay everything at its fair value, I had no objection to furnish it.

Finally, it is necessary to have hospitals in Erfurt for 4,000 patients, to set up the premises immediately, and to provide all that is necessary. I do not hear it at the expense of the city, I will pay everything. But there is a weariness of objects of detail that can not be worn; they must be requisitioned and made to be done in the neighboring country.

Finally, it is necessary that the administration should at once make the census of the mills of the principality; they must supply 1,000 quintals of flour a day, and each miller must be ordered to grind and bring each day such quantity of flour to Erfurt, which shall be paid in cash and at the price of the mercuriales regulated by the administration. By this means, 1,000 quintals of flour could be obtained every day. It would also be necessary to divide the meat between the communes and to force them to supply it, except to make it pay immediately.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[227]

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19904. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt. April 26, 1813, seven o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, send the order to the Duke of Ragusa to direct the Compans division on Weissensee, whence he will push posts on Kœlleda, the 3rd division on Gotha, and the first in columns in the villages between Erfurt and Gotha; headquarters in Gotha, the general park and the military crews in Gotha, that must be the position of this corps tonight.General Compans will be ordered to bivouac tonight in square, and until there is news the Viceroy, who is to come by Querfurt, and Marshal Ney, who must be on the heights of Naumburg, and if he heard cannon on the side of Naumburg, he would approach it to concur in the affair. The division must be placed so that the head of the 1st Brigade can arrive in Weimar tomorrow, if necessary.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19903. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt. April 26, 1813, one o'clock in the afternoon.

Cousin, order the Duke de Buguse to bring his headquarters to Erfurt tomorrow; to carry the Bonet division in columns from Erfurt to Weimar, the 3rd division in columns from Gotha to Erfurt, and the 1st division to Weissensee and Kœlleda. Order General Compans to send an officer to Naumburg to communicate with the Prince of Moskva. Order that the provisional regiment, composed of 9000 horses, meet all together tomorrow in front of Erfurt; he will be under the orders of the Duke of Istria. The regiment of Hesse-Darmstadt, composed of old soldiers, will be part of the corps of the Duke of Ragusa; Charge this marshal to send to meet this regiment, so that it does not stop on the way. Order also the Duke of Istria to send the provisional regiment and bring it to the Guard. This regiment will be well in line behind the Guard and do nothing in isolation. If there is no brigadier-general commanding this regiment, order General Beaumont, who is here, and advise the Duke of Istria to keep him behind the Guard, and not to detach any part of it. Order the Duke of Treviso to bring his headquarters to Weimar this evening, and to summon all the young Guard as soon as the Prince of[228]

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Moskva will have evacuated the country. Order that all the administrative headquarters come to Erfurt. Order the Duke of Istria to recognize a location to be able to place his cavalry and provisional regiment around Weimar and forward, in the direction of Naumburg and Iena.

NAPOLEON

From near the original. Deposit of the war.

19906. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, WEIMAR

Erfurt. April 26, 1813, one o'clock in the afternoon.

The Major General informs you of my instructions for the movement. I order the Duke of Treviso to carry his headquarters tonight to Weimar. The Guard is in column of Erfurt at Weimar. As soon as you have evacuated the environs of Weimar, the Duke of Treviso and the Duke of Istria will place the Guard there. I have ordered General Compans to proceed from Langensalza to Weissensee, where he will be tonight. I ordered him, if he heard the cannon on the side of Naumburg, to go there at once. Get it recognized to attract it to you, if you needed it. I ordered that your 200,000 biscuit rations remain in Erfurt, so that in case of retirement and any event we can find them there.

The 4th corps, commanded by General Bertrand, will be composed of the Morand division, the Italian division and the Wurtemberge division.

I formed a 12th corps under the Duke of Reggio, who is now at Coburg. This corps is composed of two French divisions and two Bavarian divisions.

Your corps will remain composed of five divisions, including four French and the Marchand division, where are the Hessians, the Badois and the troops of Prince Primate. Remove the battalion of the Prince Primate, which is at Wurzburg and is useless there, in order to increase the division Merchant.

I will take my headquarters to Weimar tomorrow, and order my small service to follow your headquarters. I suppose your headquarters will be tonight at Auerstædt. I order General Bertrand, with his three divisions, to place himself on the heights of Weimar; he will keep Iena. You will be in charge of keeping the Dornburg outlets, where you can place the Merchant Division.[229]

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The viceroy, on the evening of the 22nd, asks me to turn to Koethen; that the enemy evacuated it on Dessau. I suppose this prince today will have occupied Halle and Merseburg. The Duke of Ragusa will have his headquarters in Erfurt tomorrow.

The King of Bavaria has relieved all the difficulties which the Bavarians made; they have a division of 10,000 men, which completes the corps of the Duke of Reggio.

I desire you to notice in all these provisions that your corps alone is maintained in five divisions. See a proof of my perfect esteem.

For this moment, my great business is to get together with the viceroy and border the whole Saale from Saalfeld to the mouth of the Saale in the Elbe. It is necessary that Naumburg be sheltered from the Cossacks.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19907. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Erfurt, April 26, 1813, an hour after noon.

Brother, you will find attached a letter for the viceroy: send it to him with all due diligence. If you are not worried about the Weser, approach Artern and Querfurt with your cavalry, or even infantry, your artillery and the Teste division. But let it be subordinated above all to the safety of your kingdom.

I wear my headquarters tonight Weimar. The Prince of Moskova, with five divisions, has his headquarters at Auerstædt, occupying Naumburg. General Bertrand, with the 4th corps, occupies Iena. The Duke of Beggio, with his corps, occupies Saalfeld. My Guard will be in Weimar tonight. The Duke of Ragusa will have his headquarters in Erfurt tomorrow. General Compans will be at Weissensee tonight.

If you could have sixteen or twenty-four pieces of cannon, 15 or 1800 horses, and any amount of infantry, all that would be very useful. Have the battalions of the Teste division also placed, and order this corps yourself.

Send letters to General Vandamme to inform him of what is happening; send it to General Lemarois, and, in Paris, to the Queen, to inform as much as possible.

Give orders to your prefects of Muhlhausen and Nordhausen to[230]

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gather as much flour and oxen as is possible and direct them to Naumburg for the food of the army.

I have not heard from you since the 22nd.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. Prince St. Jerome.

19908, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON,
VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, IN MANSFELD.

Erfurt. April 26, 1813, one o'clock in the afternoon.

My Son, I suppose you will be today in Halle el Merseburg. The prince of Moskova has his headquarters in Auerstædt and occupies Naumburg. A division of the 6th corps commanded by the Duke of Ragusa will be at Weissensee tonight. I am wearing my headquarters in Weimar tonight. General Bertrand has his headquarters behind Iena, occupying Iena by light troops. The Duke of Reggio has his headquarters at Saalfeld. I do not know where the 1st division of the 1st corps is, nor the situation of your cavalry. I suppose that the enemy, seeing the serious movements that have taken place, will have recalled all the riders whom he had detached from Hamburg on the Weser.

My first goal is to occupy the Saale and to reoccupy Hamburg as soon as possible: the 2nd division and the 6th, as well as the Saint-Cyr division, must be sufficient for this operation. You have brought General Bourcier back to Hanover; urge him to hurry to send you cavalry and complete your corps. I have here already 4,000 men, composed of different detachments destined to. 1st and 2nd corps. My second operation will be to occupy the Elbe. Let me know what forms the Magdeburg garrison.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Sr. A. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19909. - TO MARSHAL AUGEREAU, DUKE OF CASTIGLIONE,
COMMANDING THE 11th CORP OF THE GREAT ARMY IN WURZBUBG.

Erfurt. April 26, 1813.

Cousin, I am wearing my headquarters tonight at Auerstædt. The Prince of Moskova is, with five divisions, at Naumburg; General Bertrand, with three divisions, at Iena. I'll be tonight with six divisions in Weimar. The Duke of Reggio walks with three divisions on Saalfeld.[231]

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Order Prince Primate's battalion at Würzburg to proceed without delay to Erfurt.

Order the Duke of Plaisance to leave with the cavalry troops belonging to the 1st marching division of the 1st cavalry corps and with those of the 1st marching division of the 2nd cavalry corps, on their way to Gotha.

NAPOLEON

According to the original original by M. the general duke of Mortemart.

19910. - - TO PRINCE CAMBACHEHES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Erfurt, April 26, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter of April 22nd. Until this hour, the minister of your navy has never left the line for the appointment of seamen; except for the higher ranks, I bring it to him.

There has been no mention in the order of service of the general governments of Holland, Piedmont, and Tuscany, because that does not make a difference from the rest of the Empire.

I think that the Minister of Police should only send his police reports to you, and that you should not show the Empress what it is good for her to know: it is useless to talk to her about things. who might worry him or dirty his mind. So you were wrong to prejudge the question. You will find attached the letter that I am writing on this subject to the Minister of Police. The same thing must be for all ministers; they must not speak to the Empress about things that might worry her or hurt her.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

19911. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO,
MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Erfurt, April 26, 1813.

My intention is not that you deliver directly to the Empress your memoirs on police affairs. It can not have any advantage and I see some disadvantages. The Empress is too young to spoil her mind or to worry her with police details. You must therefore address only to the Archchancellor a copy of the reports you give me. The archchancellor will give her only what he[232]

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is good that she knows, and treating these kinds of affairs as lightly as possible.

After the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19912. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY AT AUERSTÆDT.

Erfurt. April 27, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

I receive your letter where I see that you have, this morning, 27 your headquarters at Auerstædt. General Compans with his division will be all together at midday at Weissensee; he must occupy Kœlleda tomorrow. The Viceroy went on the 23rd to Koethen, where his reconnaissance found a bivouac of infantry; he made Eisleben busy. There are opinions that say Winzingerode is in Merseburg. If General Souham has entered Naumburg, we will have certain news. It would be important to send an infantry reconnaissance on Freiburg, to see if there would not be a path that leads to Freihurg without going through Naumburg. I hope that today the Viceroy will be at Querfurt, and that the junction will be made. The occupation of Iena, Dornburg, Naumburg, Merseburg, Halle, is my first project. Weissenfels can also be occupied if there is a bridge over the Saale and a road on the left bank. All movements must be behind the Saale as behind a curtain, and none on the right bank.

I suppose I will not be long in hearing news of the cannon shots that you say you heard from Naumburg yesterday evening.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19913. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE, ERFURT

Erfurt, April 21, 1813.

My cousin, I have ordered the recognition of the road from Würzburg to Fulde, that of Würzburg to Meiningen and Gotha, and that from Frankfurt to Gotha; it is necessary to complete the recognition of all the roads that cross the Thuringian mountains. Take away the number of geographers needed to make the following reconnaissance: 1st) the Erfurt-Meiningen road through Ichtershausen and crossing the mountain to Oherhof; it will complete the orderly recognition of Meiningen at Würzburg; 2nd) the route[233]

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from Schweinfurt to Erfurt by Königshofen, Römhild, Thernar, Schleusingen, Ilrnenau and Ichtershausen (another route from Schweinfurt to Erfurt, first to Römhild and to Hildburghausen and Gehren); (3rd) the communication between Meiningen and Coburg by Hildburghausen; 4th), starting from Coburg, we must recognize, on the left, the communication by Eisfeld, Kahlert, and Gehren; on the right, the road from Saalfeld by Neustadt, Judenbach and Grœlenthal to there must be a communication between Neustadt, Sonneberg and Kahlert): 5th) in Saalfeld, there are three roads: the one on the right on Neustudt and Gera; the middle one on Rudolstadt, Orlamünde and Iena; the one on the left on Blankenhurg and Ilmenau (in Rudolstadt there are communications on Weimar, 1st) by Blankenhayn, 2nd) by Berka, 3rd) by Kranichfeld); It must be known, too, whether it is possible to communicate from Hudolstadt to Blaukenburg and Ilmenau, 6th) but to recognize the road from Kronach to Schleiz; the army has passed there formerly, but we do not know the communications of right and left, There must be communications between Lobeustein and Saalfeld, between Lobenstein and Hof, between Schleiz and Iena by Neustadt, between Schleiz and Hof. It is said that the road between Schleiz and Gera has just been repaired. It would be necessary to know if the road between Hof, Plauen and Gera is practicable, as it is said, between Plauen and Gera.

Geographical engineers will recognize these roads with care; they will give an account of whether they are practicable or not for the artillery, will describe the defiles, woods, rivers, their width, their depth, the bridges, the ferries, the fords; they will indicate the positions likely to defend, the towns and villages likely to be easily sheltered from a hand.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19914.-TO MARÉCHAL MARMONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt. April 27, 1813.

I have just taken in the 123rd and 134th line regiments captains to make them battalion commanders in the 37th Light, lieutenants to make captains, second lieutenants to make them lieutenants, and sergeants to make them second lieutenants . My decree will be sent to you by the Major General. All these men are here in the citadel. Get them together immediately and leave tomorrow at break of day so that before noon they are recognized[234]

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and placed in the companies: there is nothing more urgent than that, this regiment being unable to march with the inept officers who are there. You will set up the sub-lieutenants I am sending you, all of whom have been at war. You will send back to the Erfurt depot (and you will give me the note) all the captains who would not have gone to war. You will put second lieutenants and lieutenants in the same position. It is absurd to have captains in a regiment who have not made war. Those whom you will send back to the depot, we will see in the campaign what we will do with it; but in the meantime I will be in the hands of the men whom I send to you.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19915. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELT, MINISTER OF WAR, AT PA.RIS.

Erfurt, April 21, 1813.

I have just seen the 37th light infantry, it is impossible to see a more beautiful body in soldiers, but it is impossible at the same time to see a worse officer. If your office had taken the task of appointing the most inept officers in France, it would have done no better than these officers are the laughing stock of the soldiers. Indeed, they are all drawn from the colonial battalions, from the Dutch service or from the National Guard of the Pyrenees and the Scheldt; most captains have never seen the fire. Each day only adds to my dissatisfaction with the work of your offices in the most important part of the service: the organization. I want you not to waste your time dealing with police; use it to the organization of the army. I will have to remove and dismiss all these officers.

You also send me young people who leave the colleges and who have not been to the school of Saint-Cyr, so that they know nothing, and it is in new regiments that you place them! It is impossible to misuse more than this office of your ministry does. I ordered you to put at the head of this office a responsible general officer; I regard this function as the principal of your ministry, and it is the one you care for the least.

I ordered you also, before my departure, to send for the 88 officers from Spain to Mainz; you have not done anything; you have not sent the report to the Prince of Neuchatel, the Duke of Valmy, or me. I have the greatest need of these officers, who[235]

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make a considerable void; it would not have cost you much to send me the report. We do not know where these men were headed, where they are, or what they do.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19916.-TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, IN EISLEBEN.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

My Son, I receive your letter of the 26th; I do not yet have a letter from you of the 27th. I see from this letter that General Lauriston was before Wellin, and that the 31st division was to be at Querfurt on the 27th, and as on the evening of the 26th General Souham was at Naumburg, and the Prince of the Moskva at Auerstredt, I hope that the junction will be made yesterday, 27th, and at the latest, today, 28. The Prince of the Moskva will occupy Weissenfels on the Saale. I look forward to hearing that you will be in Merseburg and that the connection will be made.

Send me at once the state of situation of your army corps, and make me know where each thing is, both your artillery and your cavalry. Have all my Guard on your right, wishing as soon as possible to reunite with the rest of the Guard who is in Weimar. Wear your headquarters as close to us as you think fit.

You know that my principle is to debouch en masse; it is therefore en masse that I want to pass the Saale with 300,000 men.

Get some bread for a few days. Send me an artillery officer who knows your artillery perfectly and where your ammunition and especially your pieces of 12 exist, also all the personnel of even horse artillery and all the means of pontoon which you have.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19917. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN NAUMBURG.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, half-past three in the morning.

The 31st Division, commanded by General Gerard, must have arrived yesterday at Querfurt. If your junction was not made yesterday evening, it must be in today's day. On the 26th, the headquarters were at Mansfeld, one division occupied Alsleben, another was opposite Wettin.[236]

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General Brenier evacuated Iena before General Marchand arrived there, resulting in a party of 200 enemy cavalry to enter the city, to take several hostages and stragglers. General Marchand arrived only an hour later. This gross fault and this way of making war can compromise all my operations. When issuing an order, make sure that a post is not evacuated until it is replaced; an outlet like Iena deserved this care. Testify my discontent to General Brenier; it is to lose men very needlessly and to put the army in danger by pure improvidence.

There must be at Weissenfels a bridge over the Saale and a road which leads towards Querfurt; it would be proper to seize this city. I would like, if it is possible, to pass by the left bank. Make palms in the day the head of the bridge Naumburg, especially on the road to Merseburg. I suppose you will have Freiburg busy, so that you have your communication with Merseburg.

Thorn fell on April 16th. The garrison was reduced by diseases to 900 Bavarians; they capitulated to return to Bavaria, with the simple condition of not serving during the present year. The staff officer who brought this news left General Barclay de Tolly near Thorn with all his army. This general was in charge of Thorn and Dallzig.

On the other hand, it is certain that the corps of General Sacken is on the side of Krakow against the Austrians and the Poles, The Russians can not therefore be able to dispute seriously the Elbe, and, known Wittgenstein is enough daring, having debouched with strong masses, one can make him experience many losses.

I think the first point will be to arrive in Leipzig. The Viceroy could lead by Merseburg.

It seems that there was a pretty hot deal in Stettin, where the enemy was brushed and lost a lot of people. They wanted to storm Spandau and blew up a powder magazine; they out there lost 1,200 men. At last it appears that they burned Wittenberg, but could not take it; having attempted an assault, they lost a lot of people there. This news seems certain.

The big deal right now is the junction. Pass this letter to the Viceroy.

According to the minute. Archive, of the Empire.[237]

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19918. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL ..

Erfurt. April 28, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Brother, I receive your letter of the 27th, by which you inform me that you will be today in Eschwege and tomorrow in Erfurt. If you have any anxiety for Hanover, direct your forces on this side; if you have no anxiety for Hanover, send all your forces which are at Nordhausen to Querfurt, and all those which you have on the side of Mühlhausen on Weissensee. These two columns will meet on the Saale by the subsequent orders that you will give them from Erfurt, and you will thus be able to assist, at the head of all your forces, infantry, cavalry and artillery, including your guard, to the movement that I am going to throw the enemy on the other side of the Elbe.

Order your prefects of Mühlhausen and Nordhausen to send to Naumburg the greatest quantity of food, flour, oxen, and meat.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. Prince Jerome.

19919. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, order the Duke of Ragusa to bring his headquarters to Weimar tonight; to send out Bonet's division to take a military position, and to the bivouac, in front of Weirnar, on the roads of Naumburg, lighting the road to Iena by a battalion; to order his 3rd division to overtake Erfurt and to place himself in a column in the cantonments between Erfurt and Weimar; to the Compans division, which must be at Kœlleda, to approach Naumburg, while not making too great a march, but so as to be able to be there tomorrow, if it is necessary.

Order immediately the Duke of Istria and the Duke of Treviso to leave Weimar with the Guard on foot and on horseback, as well as with my service, to make six leagues on the way to Naumburg, to reach Auerstredt this evening, if the day is not too strong, and, if it were too strong, stay below Auerslcedt: the troops will bivouack; the cavalry will be in the villages. Let me know that I will leave, that I will arrive at Weimar when the infantry leave, wanting to march at the head of the infantry.[238]

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Instruct of these dispositions the Prince of the Moskva; also inform General Bertrand, let him know what time he will have occupied Iena; that it is necessary that he should bring the Italian division, in order to be able to go on Naumburg tomorrow.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19920. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ERFURT.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, tell the Duke of Ragusa, the Duke of Istria, the Duke of Treviso, the Duke of Reggio, General Bertrand, the Prince of the Moskva, that the headquarters will be tonight at Eckartsberga, Weimar path at Naumburg .

Make known to the Duke of Reggio that it is necessary that he be in a hurry to arrive at Saalfeld and to press on Iena, to occupy Rudolstadt and to bind himself with Iena; that I hope it will be tomorrow in Saalfeld; that we passed the Saale at Naumburg, that tonight the headquarters will be near Auerstædt, in the village of Eckansberga, that the Duke of Ragusa is at Weimar, and General Bertrand at Iena.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19921. - TO MARSHAL BESSIERE, DUKE DE ISTILE, COMMANDING THE IMPERIAL GUARD, IN WEIMAR.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, I will arrive at noon at Weimar; I will not stop for a quarter of an hour to see the duchess; I will mount on horseback to put myself at the head of the Guard. The Guard on foot and on horseback can therefore fly, since you can roll before eleven o'clock, and thus I will always find the tail of your troops in Weimar; besides, the head of Bonet's division will not delay in getting there. My intention is to wear my headquarters tonight at Eckartsberga: it is not the route of Auerstædt that must be taken, but that of Eckartsberga. The 31st division of the Viceroy was yesterday in Querfurt. It would be important to communicate.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Send runners ahead to find out if the Naumburg Bridge is guarded, and also send a detachment of twenty-five[239]

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couriers to walk as far as possible in the direction of Querfurt. Instruct them that my headquarters will be at Eckartsberga. Tell the Duke of Weimar that I wish him to send one of his couriers to Querfurt, he will carry a letter from you to the general commanding the Viceroy's corps to inform him that we have passed the Saale at Naumburg, that I will be in Eckartsberga tonight, that the Emperor will have more than 200,000 men in his hand. This couriers will go fast. You will tell him that if he has the spirit to bring me the first news of the arrival of the viceroy, he will have 50 napoleons. If you prefer to load the Postmaster, you can do it.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Istria.

19922. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813, eleven o'clock in the morning.

I receive your letter of April 27th. I wrote to you this morning.

My headquarters will be at Eckartsberga at two o'clock in the afternoon, near Auerstadt, six leagues from Weimar, and four from Naumburg; the Prince of Moskva is at Naumburg with all his corps; the Duke of Ragusa is encamped in front of Weimar; General Compans, who was at Weissensee and Kœlleda, will now place himself at the height of Eckartsberga, four leagues from Naumburg. The 4th corps is at Iena, commanded by General Bertrand; The 12th corps, commanded by the Duke of Reggio, is to arrive at Saalfeld tomorrow. Immediately send an officer to the viceroy to inform him of this news. I hope that our communications will be made today by Naumburg; one of his divisions was yesterday in Querfurt. Order General Hammerstein to send an officer to Naumburg to educate him where he is. Order him to go to Naumburg and let me know where he is; that he sends officers to post to communicate with the Viceroy, and that these officers come to report to Eckartsbergu.

Send a letter to the Queen to inform her that I have passed the Saale, as well as the successes of General Sebasliani.

Order your minister to the King of Saxony to go to Prague with this monarch to observe what is being done.

Send a letter to the King of Württemberg to inform him of the passage of the Saale and the good situation of the present things.

I think you do well to stay in Kassel. If you have[240]

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your cavalry regiment of the guard, send it to me; I tell you it will return as soon as I am on the Elbe. I order that the six battalions of the Teste division, as they arrive on the Rhine, move to Cassel, where you will join the whole division. Send us flours and oxen to Naumburg.

Write to Prince Eckmühl, Lemarois, and Sebastiani to inform them of the situation of things; and although I suppose that our meeting will be held today, however, until I have told you that it is done, inform me of all that you will learn from the viceroy. Send intelligent officers on duty, and come to report to me. Tell Lemarois to send a letter to Amsterdam, to the architect, to give him news.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19923. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Erfurt, April 28, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I send you a letter from the Comte de Mercy. I can not but be extremely dissatisfied with the way in which I am assisted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. You leave me the missions near the courts of Bavaria and Saxony incomplete in such an important moment! In Munich, where today it would take as many people as possible, you have no one! This way of doing the service is very extraordinary; Never have foreign affairs been more ignorant of what is happening. The King of Saxony has made an agreement with Austria for the Polish troops, to allow them to go through Bohemia by laying down arms, which is contrary to my intentions, and you have not known anything about it. Attention now to complete my missions and to ensure that they take care more carefully in foreign countries. Send away, twenty-four hours, everything belonging to the Dresden and Munich missions. How could you ignore the convention made by Saxony?

From the original. Archers of Foreign Affairs,

NAPOLEON

19924 - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT ECKARTSBERGA

Eckartsberga, April 29, 1813, five o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to the prince of the Moskva that it is appropriate that he[241]

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sends the Ricard division to occupy Weissenfels, on the left bank; General Souham could march by the right bank on Weissenfels, so that General Souham would have two divisions this evening at Weissenfels. The divisions Gerard and Brenier would meet at Naumburg: the Gerard division ahead, on the Zeitz road, and the Brenier division at Naumburg. The Compans division, which is at Rastenburg, could be carried, if necessary, to Freiburg; but, by means of the movement which the Viceroy makes today at Querfurt on Merseburg, it suffices to leave a post on Freiburg. Now the Compans division and the Guard could arrive at Naumburg, so that the whole corps of the Prince of the Moskva might meet this evening or tomorrow at Weissenfels, to march as soon as the Viceroy is ready, by Weissenfels and Merseburg, on Leipzig. Write to General Compans to get closer to Naumburg. Write to the Prince of Moskova to send you the papers of Naumburg and Weissenfels Post Office.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19925. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NAUMBURG.

Naumburg. April 29, 1813, four o'clock in the afternoon.

Cousin, order the Duke of Ragusa to take up his headquarters at Koesen tomorrow, and to assemble the 1st and 2nd divisions, the Compans and Bonet divisions, and to have his third division come between Eckartsberga and Koenes. Order General Brenier, who is in Camburg, as soon as he is relieved, to leave for the village of Welau, near Naumburg; a place designated by the Prince of Moskova, and where the Grillot brigade is already situated.

Order by general Marchand, who is at Camburg or Dornburg, that, if he has received orders from the Prince of the Moskva, he executes them; that, if he has not received any, he should go to Stoessen, and give notice of the moment when he arrives: warn the prince of the Moskva.

Write to General Bertrand that I suppose his headquarters will be tonight in Dornburg or Camburg, let him know the location he occupies and all the news he has learned from the enemy.

Write to the viceroy that I received his letter of the 29th, at four o'clock in the morning, that what has happened at Halle is quite simple, that Halle[242]

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is unassailable by the left bank; that I await the advice of his arrival at Merseburg; that the Prince of Moskova is at Weissenfels; that I am here in Naumburg; that he must gather at Merseburg the 11th corps, the 5th, and all his army; that he throws several bridges over the Saale, and debouches, in the one and the other direction, on the side of Weissenfels to reunite with the prince of the Moskva, and on the side of Halle to cut the road from Halle to Leipzig; which will immediately oblige the enemy to evacuate Halle; that General Ricard has walked on the left bank of Freiburg to Weissenfels, that he must be in communication with him. Write to the two battalions that General Ricard left at Freiburg to join their division.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19926. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDER THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, IN EISLEBEN,

Naumburg, April 29, 1813, five o'clock in the afternoon.

My Son, one of your couriers brings me today's letter 29, at four o'clock in the morning. Halle is unassailable on this side, as long as the enemy wishes to defend it. The 11th corps must have arrived at Merseburg; press Merseburg with all the army. If you entered Merseburg today, order the general to build bridges over the small rivers and to push on Halle, at the same time that General Lauriston will retreat to Merseburg. The result of this operation, to refuse your left to advance your right, will be to force the enemy to evacuate Halle, and this is important for the operations, and also for the subsistence.

The Prince of Moskova was at Weissenfels; the headquarters is here. The prince of Moskova will probably push an avant-garde on Lützen tomorrow. Take my guard, the gendarmes, and all that belongs to the headquarters at Merseburg; they will be there ready to receive my orders for all that is to join the general headquarters.

I have a raft bridge built here on the Saale on the road to Merseburg.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy Comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[243]

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19927. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NAUMBURG.

Naumburg, April 30th, 1813, half-past four in the morning.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Taranto, by the main road of Merseburg, to let him know that I had a bridge built on the Merseburg road; that our communications are direct and unimpeded; to unite all his army corps at Merseburg without delay; to restore the bridges on all small rivers; that he puts himself in communication with the Prince of Moskova, who is at Weissenfels, and has had a very good business, in which General Souham has overthrown Lanskoy's division, 6,000 to 7,000 strong, infantry and cavalry. Tell the Duke of Taranto to send to Naumburg all the prisoners he has made; to put a picket half-way from here to Merseburg, so that the communications are very prompt.

After having delivered this letter to the Duke of Tarentum, your officer will continue on his way to meet the Viceroy and give him a duplicate of the order you sent him yesterday to go to Merseburg and gather all his army. You will announce to the Viceroy the affair of the Prince of Moskva, where the soldiers have covered themselves with glory. Send it also to the Viceroy whom he attracts all about Merseburg, that as soon as the enemy has evacuated Halle, we will keep it as a bridgehead; but that my intention is to maneuver on the left bank of the Elster and not on the right, the right being known as more favorable to the cavalry.

Write to General Bertrand: announce to him the taking of Merseburg, the combat of Weissenfels, which does so much honor to our young soldiers, and urge him to make his way by the shortest way to Stœssen without fatiguing his troops too much, and to announce when he will arrive there; that he successively brings together his three divisions.

Write to the Duke of Reggio to arrive as soon as possible on Iena. Announce to the Duke of Reggio the events that have taken place.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19928. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA,
A CASSEL.

Naumburg, April 30, 1813, ten o'clock in the morning,

Brother, I receive your letter of April 29 at six o'clock in the morning. Yesterday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, General Souham met the[244]

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Russian general Lanskoy, who had under his orders 6 to 7,000 men, infantry, cavalry, and twelve pieces of cannon, attacked him near Weissenfels, overthrew him, took many people, and seized Weissenfels. This combat is remarkable only because General Souham had only infantry, and these young men withstood the charges of the cavalry, and marched on it with an ardor and enthusiasm that made it possible to hope for everything. At four o'clock in the afternoon, the Duke of Taranto entered Merseburg, where there were 2 to 3,000 Prussians who wanted to defend the city; he overthrew them, took a major and some prisoners, and seized the town and the bridge.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19929. - TO MARSEHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, WEISSENFELS.

Naumburg, April 30, 1813.

The viceroy, at nine o'clock in the morning, asks me to come to Merseburg at nine o'clock in the morning, and will immediately act to get behind Halle, in order to compel the enemy to evacuate this city. The Duke of Ragusa, with his three divisions, is to arrive at Naumburg at three o'clock in the afternoon; he will take a position to observe Pegau. Order General Marchand to join you. General Bertrand must also arrive today at Stœssen; tomorrow there will be the greater part of his corps united; he will position himself to recognize Zeitz's outlets.

I leave the Duke of Treviso and the young Guard still today in Naumburg. I will arrive at about three o'clock at Weissenfels. I have ordered that two battalions of the old Guards who were at Naumburg meet at Weissenfels with eight pieces of cannon, and four battalions of old Guards who are at Merseburg with the Viceroy will also go there. I hope the Duke of Reggio will arrive today or tomorrow at Iena. I wish to learn that we have Halle. Warn the viceroy of my arrival at Weissenfels, it is on this point that he must direct his reports, and no longer on Naumburg.

It is complained that your troops commit many disorders, so that the villagers desert: it is a great misfortune; put it in order.

The Duke of Istria with his cavalry goes around Weissenfels.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[245]

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19930. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NAUMBURG.

Naumburg. April 30, 1813, noon.

My Lord, give orders to the two battalions of the old Guard here with the battery of eight pieces attached to it, to leave at once to go to Weissenfels, where I will go for my person during the day. Order the Viceroy to lead Weissenfels to the Guard battalions at Merseburg. The battalions of the old Guard will assemble with these battalions, as well as the eight pieces of cannon, and form the division of the old Guard, which will be commanded by General Roguet, and will be under the immediate orders of the Duke of Dalmatia. The 1st battalion of the 2nd of tirailleurs and the 1st battalion of the 2nd of the voltigeurs will await at Weissenfels the passage of the division Dumoustier, where I wish these battalions to be placed, which will maintain this division to sixteen battalions. The Neapolitan and Piedmontese battalions will be part of the Roguel division, which will bring this division to six battalions. The guards of honor of Tuscany and Piedmont will pass under the orders of the Duke of Istria, who will place them with the big cavalry to spare them. The Duke of Treviso will remain in Naumburg today with the division of the young Guard and the artillery attached to it. You will order the Duke of Istria to carry his headquarters to Weissenfels and place all his cavalry around Weissenfels.

The Duke of Ragusa will have his headquarters in Naumburg, as I have already ordered. He will carry the Compans division and the Bonet division in the direction of Pegau. You will reiterate the order to the Prince of the Moskva to evacuate by his infantry Wetau and Plotha, so that the Duke of Ragusa can occupy these villages, and to place his divisions, as I have already ordered, in the direction of Lützen . General Marchand, as soon as he arrives at Stœssen, will have to turn to the 3rd Corps. General Bertrand will hold his headquarters at Stœssen and will make strong reconnaissance on Zeitz; as soon as I am informed of his arrival and the situation of things, I will order him to occupy Zeitz.

Name a commander for Naumburg. Order that the young Guard leave there a company of men who will be served. General Bertrand and the Duke de Raguse could also leave their men there. Until further orders, the Duke of Ragusa will hold two battalions on the bridge of Koenes; he will not have to[246]

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withdraw from this post only after obtaining authorization. I gave orders to the commander of the engineers to protect the gates of Naumburg from enemy light cavalry, as well as the bridgehead built by the Prince of Moskva. We must work on it without delay.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19931. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NAUMBURG.

Naumburg, April 30, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Ragusa, that the junction with the viceroy being entirely made by the occupation of Weissenfels by the Prince of the Moskva, and by that of Merseburg by General Macdonald, I wish him to bear today his headquarters in Naumburg, with the Bonet and Compans divisions. His 3rd Division will take over at Koeen and will occupy the field from Eckartsberga to Koeen. Announce to the Duke of Ragusa the success of the battles of Weissenfels and Merseburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19932. - TO THE PRINCE CAMBACERÈS, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Naumburg, April 30, 1813.

Cousin, I received your letter of the 26th. You will see from the news of the army that business is going pretty well here. The junction with the army of the Elbe is operated.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

19933. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, IN MERSEBURG.

Weissenfels, April 30, 1813, eleven o'clock in the evening.

My son, General Corbineau brings me your letter from the 30th to nine o'clock at night. Send the division of my Guard at five in the morning to go here. You will leave with it the battery of artillery on horseback; you will join the artillery battery on foot to the 11th Corps reserve. I order the Duke of Ragusa to send out at five in the morning (May 1st) the five battalions of the[247]

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Durutte division, which make up 3,000 men, to go to Merseburg, where I suppose this division is. This will therefore bring this division to 4,000 men; it belongs, I believe, neither to the 5th nor to the 11th corps; it will form a reserve of 4,000 men in your hand. General Reynier is going to Merseburg to take command. I do not think you have any Saxons in the army anymore; if you have some detachments, bring them together to this division. General Sebastiani, with 14,000 men, many of whom are cavalry, finds himself detached: where is he positively and what order does he have? I also see that the 1st division of the corps is also detached at a loss: where is it and what order does it have? Finally the division of the Duke of Bellune is also detached: where is she and what order has she? There is no one left in front of Magdeburg. The Prussian General Wolberg, who was there, also retreated to Dessau. This makes me a force of 14,000 men of General Sebastiani, 6,000 men of the 1st division, leaving six battalions for Magdeburg, and finally 8,000 men of the 2nd corps; total, 28,000 men, who are in vain and who would not be in the battle that will take place. Answer me promptly on this.

I do not understand how you have so little cavalry; it is always disseminated to the right and to the left. Order everything in Hanover, Brunswick, etc., to leave without delay to join you. If there were cavalry elsewhere, send by special couriers I order that it leave also, since there will be a battle and that it is important to have all your cavalry. It appears that you will be able to arrive tomorrow with nearly 60,000 men, whereas if all your forces had been united, you could emerge with 88,000 men. The Major-General had written to you to put a cavalry station half-way to Naumburg; have him come half way to Weissenfels. There was no movement here today because we did not think you were able to come out yet. Have all the 11th Corps and all your troops stationed tomorrow, and carry the three divisions of the 11th Corps, those of the 5th and 7th, that is to say your seven divisions, in front of Merseburg. Lie on Schladebach. Try to have someone from these countries to give you information. Three cavalry regiments that the enemy had at Zeitz, he returned them yesterday on Altenburg,

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Where is your park? Have him come to Merseburg; make[248]

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to fence the doors of Merseburg; palisade the various bridges, so that in case of retirement all this can be easily kept. Bring the entire headquarters to Merseburg. Establish on the spot hospitals for 4,000 men.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19934. - To Marshal Marmont, Duke of Ragusa,
COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN NAUMBURG.

Weissenfels, May 1, 1813, one o'clock in the morning.

Send out at five in the morning the five battalions of Durulle's division who are with General Bonet, to go to Merseburg, join their division, without artillery. Notify the viceroy by mail of the time they will arrive at Merseburg. The fourteen guns of the Durutte Division will remain at the reserve of your corps until further notice. The Viceroy, with 60, 000 men, is this morning, 1st May, half-way from Merseburg to Leipzig. Approach your divisions as much as possible with Weissenfels, in order to support Marshal Ney, if necessary. I have not yet heard from General Marchand, who was to pass to Stœssen; I do not have any more of General Bertrand; if you have any, give me one: the one and the other must have come by Camburg, I have ordered Marshal Mortier to carry himself by the left bank of the Saale (passing on the bridge which I had built near Naumburg), with the division of the Guard, to go to Meissenfels. By this means, Naumburg will be completely free; you will be able to place your 3rd division there. This movement on the left bank will also render the right bank very free for your divisions.

If you do not hear from General Bertrand and General Marchand, send an officer to Camburg to get some.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19935. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, WEISSENFELS.

Weissenfels, May 1, 1813, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, give orders to the viceroy to direct Roguet's division, infantry and cavalry, with a light battery of artillery on: Weissenfels: it will leave today, at five o'clock in the morning, from Merseburg. The 1st Battalions of the 2nd Regiment of tirailleurs and[249]

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2nd voltigeurs will meet at the Dumoustier division, which will bring this division to sixteen battalions. The two battalions of the old Guard which were in the division Dumoustier, with the two battalions of the old Guard which come from the Roguet division, the battalions of the velites of Turin and Florence, as well as the two battalions coming from Paris and which must to be now at Erfurt and Weimar, will form eighteen battalions which, under the command of General Roguet, will take the name of division of old Guard. She will have two brigadier generals and will be specially assigned to my service, under the superior orders of the Marshal Duke of Dalmatia. It will have for artillery the eight pieces of the division Dumoustier: this battery will be replaced in the division Dumoustier by the battery which is in the reserve of the Guard, composed of parts of 6. The reserve of the Guard will be composed of a battery of 12, arriving today, and two batteries of 12, which are back and forth.

The cavalry of Roguet's division, composed especially of the guards of honor of Florence and Turin, will join the Duke of Istria, who will attach him to the grenadiers.

The horse-drawn artillery battery which will come with the Boguet division, and which is of the line, will be given to the cavalry of the Guard; which, with the three batteries of the Guard, will make him four batteries or twenty-four pieces of cannon.

Order the Duke of Ragusa to leave at five in the morning, in the right league, for Merseburg, on the left bank of the Saale, the five battalions of Durutte's division. You will order the viceroy to reunite these five battalions with their division; which will bring it to 4,000 men. You will order General Reyuier to go to Merseburg to take command of this division, which belongs to the 5th Corps, and to which the Saxons will join as soon as possible.

Order General Kirgener, commanding the engineers of the Army of the Main, to proceed along the left bank of the Saale, under the escort of Marshal Mortier, with all the engineers, equipment and personnel of the army, on Weissenfels.

Order the Duke of Ragusa to send back to Marshal Ney's corps all the sappers who belong to it, and who would have remained for the works of Naumburg. Give him orders to continue to maintain his headquarters in Naumburg, to assemble the 3rd Division and his park, to send the 1st and 2nd divisions as close as possible to Weissenfels.

The Duke of Ragusa will make known what was the situation, this[250]

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at night, Compans and Bonet's divisions, and their situation at six o'clock in the morning.

If the Duke of Ragusa heard the cannon, he would leave Naumburg to put himself at the head of these two divisions, and send for orders.

Send an officer to Stœssen to try to get some news from Generals Marchand and Bertrand, to let General Marchand know that he is speeding up to join his army corps, and to General Bertrand that we have no news. from him since the 29th.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.

19936. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALIE, COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, IN MERSEBURG.

Weissenfels. May 1, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

My son, it is eight o'clock. At nine o'clock we set out on Lützen. I suppose that at ten o'clock you will be with all your army, the left at Meritzch, and the right at Schladehach. If you hear the cannon on Lützen, walk to the right of the enemy. Bring together all the cavalry, so that they can be given together, by sparing it and having it covered by infantry.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Have Merseburg put in good condition, and keep all the outlets of the Elster, which at this time should not be fordable.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19937. - TO MARSHAL MORTIER, DUKE OF TREVISO, COMMANDER OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD, WEISSENFELS.

Lützen, May 1, 1813, evening.

Set off tomorrow at five in the morning, with the division of General Roguet, the Dumoustier division, all the artillery and all that belongs to the Guard, in order to arrive early at Lützen.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[251]

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19938. - TO MARSHAL MARMONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA,
COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN NAUMBURG.

Lützen, May 1, 1813, evening.

Your headquarters, as I have told you, will be tonight at the ravine, on the road between Weissenfels and Lützen. Bring together all your army corps. Send the division at Naumburg at five in the morning to join. Place troops at the head of the parade. Return the battalions of General Marchand which had been placed there in position. Get illuminated on the road to Pegau. The headquarters are at Lützen, where our junction with the viceroy, which occupies Markrannstædt, has been made. The enemy retreated to Pegau and Zwenkau.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19939. - TO MARSHAL OUDINOT, DUKE OF REGGIO,
COMMANDING THE 12th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN IENA.

Lützen. May 1, 1813, in the evening.

Get to Naumburg. Let me know when you will be there.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19940. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN STOESSEN.

Lutzeu, the. May 1813. in the evening.

Talk tomorrow at six in the morning, to bring you to Starsiedel. You will communicate with Marmont, who is at Weissenfels parade, on the road from Weissenfels to Lützen. If the Italian division is tired and can not follow, you will leave it one day in Naumburg. If it has joined you, it will walk with you. Order the Westphalian Division to proceed to Naumburg; let me know when it gets there.

Send an officer to-morrow at four o'clock in the morning to come and inform the Emperor, at headquarters, of the hour you arrive, and of the route you will follow.

Take your word with the Duke of Ragusa on the way, or parade, on the way from Weissenfels to Lützen, because that is where I would address my orders if I had to give you.

Command that what comes from Iena, and everything that you[252]

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arrives, passes on the left bank of the Saale, from Iena to Naumburg; from Naumburg, crossing the river, to Weissenfels, so as to be on the left bank of the Saale: this is very important.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19941. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, IN PARIS,

Lützen. May 1, 1813, eight o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, today I took my headquarters to Lützen.

The enemy wanted to prevent us from coming into the plains of Lützen; he had assembled a numerous cavalry there. Our infantry, supported by a great deal of artillery, repulsed it during the space of four leagues. The enemy, having little artillery, did us little harm; we did a lot to him,

The first gunshot of that day caused us a significant loss: the Duke of Istria was struck by a bullet through the body and fell stiff dead. Our dead, in this day, amount to twenty-five. I write to you in all tones so that you may warn the Empress, and let him know to his wife, to prevent her from reading it through the newspapers. Make it clear to the Empress that the Duke of Istria was very far from me when he was killed.

I hasten to send you this courier; I will send you another tomorrow morning with the details of this day: but, I repeat, we had only 25 men killed, and no officer of the mark, other than the marshal, was touched .

You have been sent this morning a notice on the situation of the army, dated May 2; if it was not printed, delete it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke of Cambaceres

19942. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN.

Leutzen, May 2, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Order the Viceroy to send General Lauriston out today to Leipzig. The 11th corps will be on Markrannstædt, from where it will send a reconnaissance on Zwenkau and a reconnaissance on Leipzig, to remain in communication with the general Lauriston and to favor its operations on Leipzig. The gratitude[253]

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that the 11th corps will send on Zwenkau will be bound with the gratitude that the prince of the Moskva will send there. The headquarters of the 11th Corps will be in Markrannstedt.

Order the Prince of Moskova to join his five divisions and send two strong reconnaissance, one on Zwenkau, and the other on Pegau. Tell him that the 11th Corps, commanded by the Duke of Taranto, will have its headquarters in Markrannstædt and will send a reconnaissance to Zwenkau.

The 5th Corps, commanded by General Lauriston and on the direct route to Leipzig, will be on Leipzig.

Count Bertrand is to arrive today, at three o'clock in the afternoon, near Kaja.

The Duke of Ragusa is at the outlet.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19943. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN,

Lützen, May 2, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, send a Polish officer through Bohemia, to make known to Prince Poniatowski the junction of the two armies, the battles of Weissenfels and Lützen and the death of the Duke of Istria, who died alone, and who has nothing in common with the events, since the marshal was killed by a cannon shot, and that during the day we have not lost 25 men; that the Emperor has a formidable army; that he must support the Austrian contingent, if this auxiliary army does its duty, as Prince Schwarzenberg assured the Emperor; that in no case should he lay down his arms, and finally that he must throw himself into the other provinces of the Grand Duchy, into a partisan, to divert him, and attract many people to him.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19944. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE ELBE, AT MARKRANNSTÆDT.

Lützen, May 2, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

My Son, the Major General, must have sent you orders. You will see that I order that the 11th Corps be in a position to occupy Zwenkau, or to protect the occupation of Leipzig by the 5th Corps.[254]

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You can carry yourself, with most of your cavalry and with a division, half-way from Murkrannstædt to Leipzig, in order to support General Lauriston, if need be, and to be in time to return to support the Duke of Taranto, if it were necessary, on Zwenkau. Put your cavalry in motion. Let me know what time you think General Lauriston will be at Leipzig; I will go myself half-way from here to Leipzig, with the cavalry,

General Reynier, with the Durutte division, must be at Merseburg; send him the order to join you. I do not need to say that General Lauriston must march by division, in front, each division forming three or four squares, each distant from 3 to 400 toises; having artillery, the other divisions forming the second and third lines, in steps and placed in the same manner.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19945. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO, MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Lutzen, May 2, 1813, eight o'clock in the morning.

As all the newspaper articles about the army are made without tact, I think it is much better not to talk about them, especially since we know that these articles are made under the same conditions, influence of the police. It is a great mistake to imagine that in France we can bring ideas in this way; it's better to let things go. I see in the journal of the 28th articles of Mayence and Westphalia; I see it in other journals: they are all made in one spirit, but they are clumsy. These articles hurt the opinion, and not good; it is truth and simplicity that is necessary. A word, such a thing is true or not true, is enough.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

19946. - TO MARSHAL MARCONT, DUKE OF RAGUSA, COMMANDING THE 6th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN RIPPACH.

Lützen, May 2, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

I order General Bertrand to stop today at[255]

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Tauchau, having a division at Gleisberg and one at Stœssen, covering Naumburg and Weissenfels, and threatening Pegau and Zeitz.

My intention is that you go to Pegau, As you have little cavalry, your march must be made on several lines, seizing the villages and placing each division in three or four squares of three or four battalions, distant from 3 to 400 toises, each square crossing the grape and almost the fusillade; the other divisions in second line and in echelons. By this means we have nothing to fear from the cavalry.

The Prince of Moskva has his headquarters at Kaja, occupying by his vanguard Hohenlohe.

The headquarters are in Lützen, where all the Guard is. The Viceroy is at Markrannstædt, General Lauriston on the direct route from Merseburg to Leipzig, walking on Leipzig. where he will probably be in two hours. All the information is that the enemy from Leipzig has gone back to Zwenkau, that he has corps at Borna, and that the Emperor Alexander would be at Rochlitz. If there were no one or few people in Pegau, you would be between Pegau and Zwenkau. Try to arrive in Pegau before five in the evening. Send me three times a day news of what you have learned, and my officers know where to find you to carry out my orders.

If your 3rd division is tired, it will be able to follow you from a distance, because I think that a division is enough; but what you need is all your artillery.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19947. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN KAJA.

Lützen. May 2nd, 1813, nine-thirty in the morning.

I ordered the Duke of Ragusa to go to Pegau. If, on approach, he learns that there is something, he will take a position between Pegau and Swenkau. If you hear the cannonade on this side, be ready to go to the aid.

General Bertrand will arrive tonight at Tauchau with a division; another division at Gleisberg and another at Stœssen, in order to observe Zeitz and to go on to Pegau and Zweukau tomorrow. All the reports we have are that the enemy is meeting at Zwenkau and that Wittgenstein has been appointed commander-in-chief. Let me know the position of your five divisions. You can remove General Merchant[256]

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from the Leipzig road, all my Guard being there to support it in the direction of Zwenkau. I'm waiting for the report of what you may have learned this morning. (1)

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19948. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN.

Lützen. May 2, 1813.

My Cousin, if it is true that Spandau has surrendered, as soon as the governor is in the French lines, you will have him arrested, as well as the commander of the engineers and the commander of the artillery. The commander of the artillery and the commander of the engineers will not be arrested if they declare to the officer that you will send that they have protested against the surrender, to which they will be ordered to go to the headquarters. If they declare that they have consented to the surrender, they will be arrested until the investigation is made; but the presumption is against the council of defense, for having restored this place so promptly, except, however, justification.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of war.

19949. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN:

Lützen. May 2, 1813.

Cousin, order that the column of the Imperial Guard commanded by General Decous continue its movement on the left of the Saale to join you. Give the same order to General Milhaud; you will let him know that he will march after the Guard and take the orders of General Walther and General Saint-Germain. Let me know when the Westphalian division arrives in Naumburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19950. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN.

Lützen. May 2, 1813.

My Cousin, give order that the genius, the artillery and the administration

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1) One reads on the minute: "The Emperor has himself made changes to this letter, of which he has not taken note. "[257]

armies of the Elbe and the Main, these two armies becoming one, meet at headquarters.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19951. - BULLETIN OF THE GREAT ARMY. (1)
Lützen, May 2, 1813.

The battles of Weissenfels and Lützen were only the prelude to events of the highest importance. The Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, who had arrived at Dresden with all their strength in the last days of April, on hearing that the French army had debouched from Thuringia, adopted the plan to fight him in the plains of Lützen, and set out to occupy the position; but they were warned by the rapidity of the movements of the French army. They persisted, however, in their plans, and resolved to attack the army for the position it had taken.

The position of the French army on May 2nd, at nine o'clock in the morning, was as follows:

The left of the army leaned on the Elster; it was formed by the viceroy, having under his orders the 5th and 11th corps. The center was commanded by the prince of the Moskva, in the village of Kaja, The Emperor with the young and the old Guard was at Lützen.

The Duke of Ragusa was at the parade of Posern, and formed the right with his three divisions. Finally General Bertrand, commanding the 4th corps, marched to get to this parade. The enemy debouched and passed the Elster at the bridges of Zwenkau, Pegau and Zeitz. His Majesty, hoping to prevent him in his movement and thinking that he could attack only on the 3rd, ordered General Lauriston, whose corps formed the end of the left, to go to Leipzig, in order to disconcert the plans of the enemy and to place the French army, for the day of the 3rd, in a very different position from the one where the enemies had counted on finding it, and where it was indeed the 2nd, and thus to bring confusion and disorder in their columns.

At nine o'clock in the morning, His Majesty, having heard a cannonade on the side of Leipzig, galloped there. The enemy defended the small village of Lindenau and the bridges in front of Leipzig. His Majesty

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1) See the note on the *Bulletins of the Grande Armée*. t. XXIII, p. 520.[258]

only waited for the moment, when these last positions would be removed to set in motion all his army in that direction, to turn it on Leipzig, to pass on the right of the Elster and to take the enemy back; but at ten o'clock the enemy's army arrived at Kaja, on several columns of a deep depth; the horizon was darkened. The enemy presented forces which seemed immense; the Emperor immediately reads his dispositions. The Viceroy was ordered to go to the left of the Prince of Moskva; but it took him three hours to execute this movement. The prince of Moskova took up arms, and with his five divisions supported the combat, which after a half-hour became terrible. Her Majesty herself placed herself at the head of the Guard behind the center of the army, supporting the right of the Prince of Moskva. The Duke of Ragusa, with his three divisions, occupied the far right. General Bertrand was ordered to debouch on the rear of the enemy army, at the moment when the line would be most strongly engaged. Fortune was pleased to crown all these dispositions with the most brilliant success. The enemy, who seemed certain of the success of his enterprise, was marching to overflow the right wing and the road to Weissenfels: General Compans, general of battle of the first merit, at the head of the first division of the Duke of Ragusa, the stopped short. The navy regiments sustained several charges with coolness, and covered the battlefield of the elite of the enemy cavalry. But the great efforts of infantry, artillery, and cavalry were on the center. Four of the five divisions of the Prince of Moskova were already engaged. The village of Kaja was taken and resumed several times. This village had remained in the hands of the enemy; the Count de Lobau directed General Ricard to retake the village; it was taken back.

The battle embraced the line of two leagues, covered with fire, smoke, and whirlwinds of dust. The Prince of Moskva, General Souham, General Girard, were everywhere, facing everything. Injured with several bullets, General Girard wanted to remain on the battlefield. He declared that he wished to die by commanding and directing his troops, since the moment had arrived for all Frenchmen who had the heart to conquer or perish.

In the distance, however, the dust and the first fires of General Bertrand's body began to be seen. At the same time the Viceroy entered the line on the left, and the Duke of Taranto attacked the enemy's reserve and approached the village where the enemy supported his right. At that moment, the enemy redoubled his[259]

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efforts on the center; the village of Kaja was carried away again: our center falters; some battalions disbanded; but this valorous youth, at the sight of the Emperor, rallied, shouting:

Long live the emperor! His Majesty judged that the moment of crisis which decides the gain or the loss of the battles had arrived: there was not a moment to lose. The Emperor ordered the Duke of Treviso to carry with him sixteen battalions of the young guard to the village of Kaja, to give head down, to overthrow the enemy, to take back the village, and to keep a close hand on all that was found there. At the same moment, his Majesty ordered his aide-de-camp to General Drouot, an artillery officer of the highest distinction, to assemble a battery of eighty pieces and place it in front of the old Guard, which was arranged We have four redoubts, to support the center, all our cavalry arrayed behind. Generals Dulauloy, Drouot and Desvaux galloped off with their eighty guns placed in the same group. The fire became dreadful. The enemy flexes on all sides. The Duke of Treviso carried off the village of Kaja without blows, overthrew the enemy, and continued to advance, defeating the charge. Cavalry, infantry, artillery of the enemy, all retreated.

General Bonet, commanding a division of the Duke of Ragusa, was ordered to make a movement by his left on Kaja, to support the successes of the center. He supported several cavalry charges in which the enemy suffered great pearls.

Meanwhile General Count Bertrand advanced and entered the line.

It is in vain that the enemy cavalry caracola around its edges; his march was not slowed down. To join him more quickly, the Emperor ordered a change of direction by pivoting on Kaja. All the right made a change of forehead, the right forward.

The enemy only fled; we pursued him a league and a half. We soon reached the height which the Emperor Alexander, the King of Prussia, and the Brandenburg family occupied during the battle. A prisoner officer, who was there, informed us of this circumstance.

We made several thousand prisoners. The number could not be greater, the inferiority of our cavalry, and the desire which the Emperor had shown to spare it.

At the beginning of the battle, the Emperor had said to the troops: It is a battle of Egypt. An good infantry supported by artillery must be sufficient.

General Goure, Chief of Staff of the Prince of Moskora,[260]

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killed, dead worthy of such a good soldier! Our loss amounts to 10,000 killed or wounded. That of the enemy can be estimated from 25 to 30,000 men. The royal guard of Prussia was destroyed. The guards of the Emperor of Russia have suffered considerably; the two divisions of ten regiments of Russian cuirassiers were crushed.

His Majesty can not over-praise the goodwill, the courage, and the intrepidity of the army. Our young soldiers did not consider the danger. They have in this great circumstance revealed all the nobility of the French blood.

The General Staff, in its relation, will make known the beautiful actions which have illustrated that brilliant day, which, like a thunderclap, has pulverized the chimerical hopes and all the calculations of destruction and dismemberment of the Empire. The dark foliage woven by the cabinet of St. James for a whole winter is in a moment settled like the Gordian knot by the sword of Alexander.

The Prince of Hesse-Homburg was killed. The prisoners say that the young Prince Royal of Prussia was wounded, that the Prince of Mecklenburg-Strelitz was killed.

The old Guard's infantry, of which only six battalions had arrived, supported the affair with its coolness, which characterizes it. She did not fire a gun. Half of the army did not give, for the four divisions of General Lauriston's corps only occupied Leipzig; the three divisions of the Duke of Reggio were still two days from the field of battle. Count Bertrand only gave with one of his divisions, and so lightly, that he did not lose 50 men; his 2nd and 3rd divisions did not give. The 2nd division of the young Guard, commanded by General Barrois, was still five days away; it was the same with half the old Guard, commanded by General Decous, who was still only at Erfurt; reserve batteries forming more than 100 guns had not joined, and they are still moving from Mainz to Erfurt; the Duke de Bellune's corps was also three days before the battlefield; General Sebastiani's cavalry corps, with the three divisions of Prince Eckmühl, was on the Lower Elbe side. The allied army, 150-200,000 strong, commanded by the two sovereigns

Having a large number of princes - from the house of Prussia to his head - was therefore defeated and routed by less than half of the French army.

The ambulances and the field of battle offered the most touching sight: the young soldiers, in the sight of the Emperor, were[261]

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to truce to their pains by shouting: *Long live the Emperor*! "Twenty years ago," said the Emperor, "I command the French armies; I have not seen so much bravery and dedication yet. "

Europe would at last be quiet if the sovereigns and ministers who run their cabinets could have been present on this battlefield. They would give up the hope of demoting the star of France; they would see that the councilors who want to dismember the French Empire and humiliate the Emperor prepare the loss of their sovereigns.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of May 9, 1813,

19952. - PROCLAMATION TO THE ARMY.
From our Imperial camp at Lützen, May 3, 1813,

Soldiers, I'm happy with you! You have fulfilled my expectations! You have made up for everything by your good will and your bravery. On the famous day of May 2, you defeated and routed the Russian and Prussian army, commanded by the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia. You added a new chandelier to the glory of my eagles; you have shown all that French blood can do. The battle of Lützen will be put above the battles of Austerlitz, Iena, Friedland and Moskova. In the past campaign, the enemy found refuge against our weapons only by following the ferocious method of the barbarians his ancestors: armies of Tartars set fire to his country, his cities, holy Moscow itself. Today they arrived in our countries, preceded by all that Germany, France, and Italy have bad subjects and deserters, to preach revolt, anarchy, civil war, murder; they made themselves apostles of all crimes. It is a moral fire that they wanted to light between the Vistula and the Rhine, for, according to the custom of the despotic governments, to put deserts between us and them. Fools! They knew little of the attachment to their sovereigns, the wisdom, the spirit of order, and the common sense of the Germans. They knew little of the power and bravery of the French.

In one day, you have foiled all these parricidal plots. We will reject these Tartars in their terrible climate, which they must not cross. Let them remain in their frozen deserts, a place of slavery, barbarism, and corruption, where man is swallowed like the brute![262]

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You deserve well of civilized Europe. Soldiers, Italy, France, Germany give you thanks!

NAPOLEON.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of May 18, 1813.

19953. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

From the Lützen battlefield. 3 May 1813.

My Brother, your aide-de-camp has found me on the battlefield, pursuing the enemy, which my army completely defeated yesterday. The Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia personally commanded their guards to be crushed.

I do not understand the delay in the payment of the 500,000 francs; they are included in the March distribution. Send a letter to the Duke of Bassano, who should have already paid you the amount.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

19954. - TO PRINCE LEBRUN, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF HOLLAND, AMSTERDAM.

Pegau, May 3, 1813.

I see in the Journal of Amsterdam that you have put an excerpt from my letters in the newspapers: that will serve me as a rule for not writing to you any more, How can one commit such an impropriety!

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19955.-TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU.

Pegau, May 4, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, order the viceroy to leave today at six o'clock in the morning to go to Borna. You will let him know that I am giving orders to General Lauriston, who continues to be under his orders, to go to Roetha.

Give General Lauriston the order to go to Roetha, and, once past, to favor the passage of the viceroy to Borna.

Tell the viceroy also that it is absolutely necessary to have Borna in[263]

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the day, in order to push the enemy and to have information on his direction.

Order the Duke of Ragusa to leave at a better time than he can to join the road to Borna; let him know what point and what time he will arrive.

Order the Westphalian general, if he is at Naumburg, to go to Zeitz, and if he is at Weissenfels, to go to Pegau.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19956. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN.

Pegau, May 4, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

The Major General will let you know my intentions for today's movements. If there is no inconvenience, I wish you to go to Leipzig: make the most beautiful entry possible, and use your time to give me information of every kind. Pass the review of your corps; propose to me to name vacant places to rehabilitate what would be disorganized, and especially the artillery, which should not be diminished. If there are horses killed, you can easily get others in the country where you are: you must have the same number of pieces as you had before the battle.

General Reynier commands the 7th corps, composed of Saxons and the Durutte division; it is at Merseburg: I put it under your orders. I order him to go to Leipzig tomorrow, if, however, it is certain that the enemy column which had marched on Halle has evacuated it, which I do not doubt. Durutte's division is 3,000 strong. I also want the Duke of Bellune, who is in Bernburg, to join you.

My intention is to take my headquarters to Borna today to follow the enemy closely. There I may decide to go to Dresden; but in this case I will leave you on my left, to carry you to Wittenberg, after having unblocked Torgau, and put General Reynier at the head of his seventh corps. I suppose he will be able to form there a division of 6 to 7,000 Saxons, which will make him 10,000 men. I would like at Wittenberg to bring together General Sebastiani, who has 14,000 men, of whom 4,000 are cavalry; which would not leave Wittenberg a very fine army. That would allow me, according to the subsequent information that I would receive,[264]

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or to stick to the Elbe, or to emerge by Wittenberg and to go immediately to Berlin. But I can not yet fix my ideas on that, because I do not know exactly the situation of your corps; let me know it well. You are the one who has suffered the most. Please order me also to pick up the rifles on the battlefield.

I am informed that the enemy has only left General Wittenberg with General Kleist with 3 or 4,000 men, a small column which has marched on Halle and few people, Dessau. As soon as you have arrived at Leipzig, if you learn that the way is free from Leipzig to Bernburg, where is the Duke of Bellune, order him to be ready to join you. Please send me from Leipzig information on what is happening in Magdeburg, Wittenberg and Torgau. General Reynier can send a Saxon officer to Torgau to make known the result of the battle, and to take command of the corps.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

19957. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU.

Peuau. May 4, 1813, five o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to General Bertrand that, until he is informed that the Duke of Reggio has arrived at Zeitz, he sends strong acknowledgments in the direction of Zeitz and Altenburg, in order to hear from him. the enemy; that he sends also patrols on the side of Borna, and that, if he heard a sharp cannonade on this point, he goes there and sends to ask for orders.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19958. - TO MARSEHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LUTZEN.

Pegau, May 4, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

I receive news of the viceroy, dated seven o'clock in the morning; he arrived in Borna. The Prussian and Russian army flees to Rochlitz. The loss of the enemy has been enormous. We have here found the body of the Prince of Hesse-Homburg: I bury him with all the honors due to his rank. It is maintained that the Prince of Prussia was wounded. Despair is in the soul of the Prussians. I'm doing[265]

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ou de m'en tenir à l'Elbe, ou de déboucher par Wittenberg et de me porter immédiatement sur Berlin. Mais je ne puis pas encore fixer mes idées sur cela, parce que je ne connais pas exactement la situation de votre corps; faites-moi-la bien connaître. Vous êtes celui qui avez le plus souffert. Je vous prie de donner ordre aussi qu'on ramasse les fusils sur le champ de bataille.

On m'assure que l'ennemi n'a laissé près de Wittenberg que le général Kleist avec 3 ou 4,000 hommes, une petite colonne qui a marché sur Halle et peu de monde ci Dessau. Aussitôt que vous serez arrivé à Leipzig, si vous apprenez que le chemin soit libre de Leipzig à Bernburg, où est le duc de Bellune, donnez-lui ordre de se tenir prêt à vous rejoindre. Je vous prie de m'envoyer de Leipzig des renseignements sur ce qui se passe à Magdeburg, Wittenberg et Torgau. Le général Reynier peut envoyer un officier saxon à Torgau pour y faire connaître le résultat de la bataille, et qu'il vient prendre le commandement du corps.

D'après la minute, Archives de l'Empire.

19957. - AU PRINCE DE NEUCHATEL ET DE WAGRAM,

MAJOR GÉNÉRAL DE LA GRANDE ARMÉE, A PEGAU.

Peuau. 4 mai 1813, cinq heures du malin.

Mon Cousin, écrivez au général Bertrand que, jusqu'à ce qu'il soit instruit que le duc de Reggio est arrive à Zeitz, il envoie de fortes reconnaissances dans la direction de Zeitz et d'Altenburg , afin d'avoir des nouvelles de l'ennemi; qu'il envoie aussi des patrouilles du

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côté de Borna, el que, s'il entendait une vive canonnade sur ce point, il s'y porte et envoie demander des ordres.

NAPOLÉON

D'après l'original. Dépôt de la guerre.

19958. - AU MARÉCHAL NEY, PRINCE DE LA MOSKOVA,

COMMANDANT LE 3e CORPS DE LA GRANDE ARMÉE, A LUTZEN.

Pegau, 4 mai 1813, neuf heures du matin.

Je reçois des nouvelles du vice-roi, datées sept heures du malin; il est arrive à Borna. L'armée prussienne et russe fuit à tontes jambes sur Rochlitz. La perte de l'ennemi a été énorme. Nous avons trouvé ici le corps du prince de Hesse-Homburg: je le fais enterrer avec tous les honneurs dus à son rang. On soutient que le prince de Prusse a été blessé. Le désespoir est dans l'âme des Prussiens. Je fais marcher

on Dresden. I sent you this clever my intentions. Join the Duke of Bellune to unlock Wittenberg. Send General Reynier to Torgau to join the Saxons. General Sebastiani having nearly 4,000 men of cavalry, it will be possible for me to decide to have you march on Berlin to warn the enemy; but, as of reason, as soon as I have more precise information.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19959. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU.

Pegau, May 4, 1813.

Cousin, write to General Sebastiani, by a staff officer, that he must move in such a way as to make his meeting with the Prince of the Moskva as soon as possible; that he tries to meet on the way with all the infantry, the cavalry and the artillery which he will find, and that he brings everything to the army; that he should take under his orders the 1st division of the army, commanded by General Philippon; that, if the Duke of Bellune is not united with the corps of the Prince of Moskva, he should also meet there, so as to arrive with the greatest possible power, but also so as to rejoin the Prince the Moskva; let him write to Hanover and Brunswick so that all possible cavalry can join him. He will leave at Magdeburg only the Westphalian regiment, the regiment of march of the citadel, four battalions of the 1st division, two of the 2nd corps; which will make eight French battalions.

Write to the Duke of Bellune the orders you give to General Sebastiani; make him acquainted that he will be under the orders of the Prince of Moskva, as an older marshal than he; that he should also gather all the detachments of infantry, cavalry, and artillery which are within his reach, and that he walks with precaution. Write to the Prince of the Moskva that, independently of the divisions that make up his army corps, my intention is that the 2nd Corps, commanded by the Duke of Bellune, having a division of ten battalions which was at Bamberg, be under his command and join him; that General Sehastiani, having under his command Puthod's division, 10,000 men of infantry, and 4,000 cavalry, be under his orders, and join him; that the 1st division of the army, forming part of the 1st corps, which is of sixteen battalions and which is on the side of Magdeburg, leaves four battalions at Magdeburg and rejoins it with twelve battalions.[266]

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The Prince of Moskova will thus receive an increase of twelve battalions of the Puthod division, twelve of the division of the 1st corps, commanded by General Philippon, ten of the Duke of Bellune, total thirty-four battalions with their artillery batteries, plus 4,000 men of General Sehastiani's cavalry; which, with Durutte's division, will make him an increase of 30,000 men, including the Saxons. There are two battalions of the foreign regiment, and several isolated battalions of General Lauriston, which have not yet passed Leipzig; he can gather to himself everything that would not have gone beyond Leipzig in the day of tomorrow, by giving an account of it. Let him send his couriers to these different generals, and let him be ready to maneuver to reach Torgau; let him, therefore, assemble the Duke de Bellune and the generals Seliastinni and Philippon, so that nothing happens to them on the way.

Write to the commander of Magdeburg and all these generals accordingly, and give notice everywhere of the victory we have won.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19960. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU.

Pegau, May 4, 1813.

Cousin, it seems to me that I had ordered you to inform the Duke of Reggio that my intention was that he should turn to Zeitz. However, the note you sent me this night says nothing of this last order; let me know what date it is. I had also ordered that the Wurtemberge division went to Pegau in line to join the general General Bertrand; he made a detour; give him the order, since he is at Kaja, to rejoin General Bertrand at once. I have ordered General Hammerstein to go to Pegau, direct him to the Duke de Ragusa; he will be part of his corps and walk with him. As this general has a thousand men of cavalry, he will be useful to the Duke of Ragusa. General Milhaud must not go through Kaja, but go straight to Pegau. When did the column commanded by General Decous arrive in Naumburg? When did he leave? Did you specify in your order that he come on Pegau?

The four pontoon companies that arrived on May 1st[267]

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at Erfurt were they ordered to continue their journey? As for the treasure of the army, it is well in Erfurt; leave it there until we have taken a definite position. The battalion of the 37th Light can also, without difficulty, stay a few days in Erfurt, rest and reform.

Order Lorge's division to leave Hanau for Gotha.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19961. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU.

Pegau, May 4, 1813.

Cousin, send the order to the Milhaud division, which arrives at Naumburg today, to go straight to Pegau, the same order for the column of General Decous. Tell these two generals to walk together to support each other.

The corps of General Hammerstein will be part of the corps of the Duke of Ragusa; that he is heading today to Borna. Send it to the Duke of Ragusa, so that he may learn as soon as possible that this corps, having 1,000 horses, will be placed under his command.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19962. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Pegau, May 4, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letters of the 28th and the 29th. You will see from the relations sent to the Empress what is the present state of affairs. We can not get better. Nothing compares above all the value, the goodwill, and the love shown me by all these young soldiers; they are full of enthusiasm.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

19963. - TO FRANÇOIS Ist, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA

Pegau, May 4, 1813.

My dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, knowing the interest your Majesty takes in all that happens to me happy, I hasten to announce to him the victory which it has pleased Providence to grant [268]

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to my arms in the fields of Lützen. Although, having wished to direct all the movements of my army myself, and having found myself sometimes within reach of the grape-shot, I experienced no kind of accident, and, thanks to heaven, I enjoy the best health.

I have daily news of the Empress, of which I continue to be extremely satisfied. She is now my prime minister, and she fulfills it to my great satisfaction; I do not want to let him ignore your Majesty, knowing how much it will please his paternal heart.

May your majesty believe in the sentiments of esteem and perfect consideration which I bear to him, and especially in the true interest which I take in his happiness.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.

19964. - TO FREDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, IN STUTTGART.
Pegau, May 4, 1813.

Brother, I have instructed the Governor of Westphalia to write to your Majesty to inform him of the state of my affairs; I hope he does it exactly. Your Majesty will have learned the reported victory that Providence has bestowed upon me my arms in the fields of Lützen. The King of Prussia and the Emperor of Russia, with the Russian army of Wittgenstein, with 150,000 to 200,000 men, of whom 30,000 were cavalry, came to attack me at the village of Kaja on the 2nd, at ten o'clock in the morning. I beat them completely with my only infantry; I am pursuing the sword in my loins, and already the viceroy has arrived at Borna.

The guard of the King of Prussia was destroyed, that of the Emperor of Russia he suffered much; the regiments of Russian cuirassiers were crushed; I count the loss of the enemy at 25 or 30,000 men. It is said that several princes of the house of Prussia were wounded; I have just buried the Prince of Hesse-Hombourg.

And yet the three divisions of the Duke of Reggio had not joined me; of the three divisions of General Bertrand, two had not joined me, and one had hardly fired a few bullets; the four divisions of General Lauriston did not participate in the affair; half of my old Guard, who will join me in three days, was not there; the three divisions of the 1st corps, three of the 2nd, had not joined me; General Sebastiani, with 14,000 men, including 4,000 of cavalry, was on Luneburg: so I won this victory with a third of[269]

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army against all enemy armies. This does not surprise me, considering the bad composition of the current Russian infantry. The Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia make their way to Dresden; I pursue them there; this will take us to the Vistula. So there are so many hopes of change and upheaval destroyed!

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19965. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, BORNA.

Borna, May 5, 1813, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to the viceroy that he walks far too slowly; that it occupies far too much space, which embarrasses the march of the army; that there are too many wagons to his corps, and that there is no order; that the cavalry drags in its train, as usual, a great number of embarrassments and men who have been laid waste; let him direct all this to Leipzig; that he also puts his wagons in order; that he should execute the regulations, and that no baggage should be made with the 1st Infantry Division; that it is necessary nowadays, that the tail of the corps should have passed Colditz at noon, and that his headquarters should be between Colditz and Waldheim, the nearest to Waldheim that he can; the headquarters of the army will be at Colditz at noon; that it is also necessary to walk together today.

Order General Bertrand to go to Rochlilz; let him know that the viceroy has passed Colditz.

Order the Duke of Ragusa to move between Colditz and Rochlitz to cross the Mulde, if the enemy defends it at Colditz, and thus be able to turn the position; that he will have Rochlitz recognized; that General Bertrand must arrive at Rochlitz, but very late; that the viceroy will be beyond Colditz,

Order the Duke of Reggio to go to Altenburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19966. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT PEGAU, AT BORNA.

Borna, May 5, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, write to the Prince of the Moskva that I ordered Count Lauriston to go with his corps to Wurzen, to clean the road of Wurzen and Dresden, which will ensure his right flank;[270]

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that I wish him to go as soon as possible to Torgau to restore communication.

Write to General Thielmann, commander of Torgau, to let him know that General Reynier will take command of the 7th Corps.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19967. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, SUPERIOR COMMANDER OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Borna, May 5, 1813.

I order Count Beugnot to supply 500 horses, lances, and all that he can dispose of in the Grand Duchy to General Dombrowski's brigade. Warn General Dombrowski to have these supplies delivered on the spot. Press, the departure of that small division for the army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Valmy.

19968. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Borna, May 5, 1813.

In the last battle, I saw with the greatest difficulty that a good third of the shells did not burst. This case is of the greatest importance. This is due to the fact that they have been loaded for many years: it must not be; there is neither but neither can that justify the artillery corps of such negligence. I saw a lot of these shells on the battlefield; they had rockets, but no locks. Finally take the most effective measures to remedy such a big inconvenience. The responsibility lies entirely on the artillery corps; an artillery director who dispatches munitions that are not in state, according to the military laws, deserves death. It is also necessary to take some measures to munitions specialist train.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[271]

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19969. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Borna, May 5, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I receive your letter of April 25th. You say that I have not made known to you my intention for the seventeen majors coming from Spain; I can not conceive that. When I told you that all the officers coming from Spain had to go to the headquarters of the Grand Army, it seems to me that this included colonels, second colonels, majors, second majors, battalion commanders, and so on. In the meantime, I find myself on the battlefield without officers. Besides, the campaign will use many; we must therefore have some to replace them, without making too rapid progress and not reaching the goal. I can only repeat what I have already told you ten times, that all the officers who come to you from Spain should be directed to Mainz.

If you need officers and non-commissioned officers, the Spanish army is an inexhaustible nursery; I authorize you to bring some.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

19970. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, TO COLDITZ.

Colditz, May 5, 1813.

My Cousin, write to General Lauriston, by a local, to whom you will promise twenty Napoleon reward if he brings the answer before six o'clock in the morning. Make known to the general that he is on a great march, and by the high road, to Dresden, so as to make seven or eight leagues a day; that my headquarters arrived here today; that all the corps have passed through here, and that there must be nothing considerable on the side of the Prince of the Moskva.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19971. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, TO COLDITZ.

Colditz, May 6, 1813, half past three in the morning.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Ragusa, that the viceroy yesterday defeated the corps of Miloradovilch at the village of Gersdorf; that his[272]

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the vanguard was on the heights of Hartha; that it is necessary that his 1st division begin to enter the city at four o'clock in the morning, and proceed with all speed to Waldheim; that a division of General Kleist, which was coming from the side of Wittenberg, returned to Wurzen by Leisnig, which he probably evacuated during the night; that he must send an acknowledgment on Leisnig, where it is good that one enters to know what has happened; that this must not stop the march of his army corps in the direction of the viceroy.

Write to the viceroy that I have seen with pleasure his relation of yesterday, but that there are very few prisoners; that in a country where the cavalry can do nothing, it should have taken 2 to 3,000 men; to leave at daybreak to reach Nossen during the day; that the Duke de Raguse supports him at three hours' march; that all the Guard is in front of Coldilz; that he can walk straight and quickly; that, as all the columns of the enemy converge on Dresden, it is important to arrive quickly before this city, since all that would not have passed would be rejected on Bohemia; that General Lauriston has been instructed to march on the great steps of Wurzen, by the main road, to Dresden. Order General Bertrand, who is at Rochlitz, to march on two columns, one to cross the river between Waldheim and Mitveida, the other on Mitveida; let him know that the Viceroy is on Waldheim, that he defeated the corps of Miloradoviteh yesterday; that the viceroy is ordered to go to Nossen today; that he must therefore approach: that General Lauriston leaves today from Wurzen to travel eight leagues a day on the great Dresden road; that it is necessary to arrive at once on Dresden; that he sends an officer to the Duke of Reggio to hear from him, for it is to be expected that, if there is an enemy column which has not yet arrived at Dresden, the enemy will wish to hold in order to gain twenty- four hours.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19972. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Colditz, May 6, 1813, half-past three in the morning.

I received your letter from Leipzig on May 5th, together with the information contained therein. The Viceroy defeated yesterday at Gersdorf and pushed on Hartha General Miloradovich, who had two divisions,[273]

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forming twelve regiments, and about 9,000 men under arms. This general was on the march, but could not arrive at the battle; he was overthrown and lost a lot. We will be in Nossen today. I ordered General Lauriston to march in haste to Dresden; he must be in Wurzen. As my orders reach him by the side roads, and that you can write him by the high road, inform him that it is my intention that it does seven to eight leagues a day, in order to reach the same height that we in Dresden. Warn him that General Kleist, with a division of 5 to 6,000 men, was yesterday in the village of Leisnig and was on the road, probably to cover the road from Wurzen to Dresden. It would be possible that, if General Lauriston maneuvered well, he could remove that division.

You speak to me of a division at Halle, I suppose she will have demoted to Dessau at the news of the battle; if it were otherwise, you would find yourself in his rear and not let him join.

I am very impatient to know you about Torgau and to see Wittenberg unlocked, for things are taking such a shape that it would be very possible for me to take the decision to go straight to Berlin.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19973. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, TO COLDITZ.

Colditz, May 6, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning,

Cousin, write to General Bertrand that I leave him master to go to Freyberg, in order to lead by that great road to Dresden; that the viceroy will be at Nossen tonight; perhaps I will take my headquarters there tonight; perhaps I will speak it at Etzdorf.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

19974. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG.

Colditz, May 6, 1813,

Have every day sent from Leipzig 20,000 rations of bread by the Great All over Dresden, because we are going to be piled up more and more each day.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[274]

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19975. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPZIG,

Colditz, May 6, 1813,

The two companies of the 6th battalion of military crews arrived yesterday at Borna; send them to search. Send an officer to Naumbnrg, so that all that is destined for your corps and that of the Duke of Belluno goes to Leipzig.

Get hospitals in Leipzig for 6,000 wounded, and have them transport the wounded to Lützen. We will probably be in Dresden tomorrow. It appears that the Prussian corps of 20 to 25,000 men withdraws on Meissen.

The 1st division of the army will be part of the corps of the Duke of Bellune until further notice. This marshal will have two divisions, the 1st and the 4th, which, with your five divisions and the two divisions of General Reynier, will make nine divisions. The roads must be free to reach Magdeburg. Press your junction with General Sebastiani. This general has with him a division which belongs to General Lauriston; let me know when she will arrive, so that I designate where he should go to her corps. I suppose that General Sebastiuni must have 6,000 cavalry men; it is a beautiful army, with which I would like to see you arrive at Torgau. Meanwhile, I will push the Russians into this country. I do not know if I can go to Dresden; I am afraid of finding embarrassment to pass, for I have pontooners and no pontoons; they will not have arrived before a fortnight. If I have no boats and the enemy seriously defends the passage and exposes Dresden to the circumstances of the war, I shall be obliged to return to Torgau; but your presence in Torgau with your army corps must impose on the enemy and make him give up the project of defending the Elbe.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,

19976, - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LEIPIZG.

Colditz, May 6, 1813.

Have a boat bridge built near Wurzen and a drum in fences so that communication with Dresden is safe and fast.

According to the minute, Archives of the Empire,[275]

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19977 - TO Mme. THE MARÉCHALE BESSIÈRES, DUCHESS OF ISTRIA, IN PARIS.

Colditz, May 6, 1813.

My cousin, your husband died on the field of honor. The loss you make, and that of your children, is probably great, but mine is even more so. The Duke of Istria died of the most beautiful death and without suffering. He leaves a reputation unblemished: it is the most beautiful legacy he was able to bequeath to his children. My protection is theirs; they will also inherit the affection I bore to their father. Find in all these considerations consolation motives to alleviate your troubles, and never doubt my feelings for you.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duchess of Istria.

19978. - TO MARSCHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, TO SCHILDA.

Waldheim. May 7, 1813, ten o'clock in the morning.

General Sebastiani left on May 1 in Luneburg, so today there are six days: he must be near you. It is important that this general, who has a great deal of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, rejoin as soon as possible. Write by Saxon gendarmes, in different directions, for him to join soon. The arrival of these forces on the side of Wittenberg and Torgau will make it possible to undertake everything successfully on the right bank of the Elbe.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19979. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT OF LAURISTON, COMMANDING THE 5th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT LOMMATZSCH.

Nossen, May 7, 1813, five o'clock in the afternoon.

The headquarters are now at Nossen; the viceroy arrives tonight near Wilsdruf, in the village of Blankenstein. The inhabitants of the country claim to have heard cannon near Meissen this morning at ten o'clock; it seems difficult that it can be you. I am sending you a gendarme to hear from you. Tomorrow we will march on Dresden. It seems that the Prussians have retired on Meissen; it is said that they made some entrenchments on the mountains ahead; this is what the locals will have taught you and what you have been able to verify. Let me know[276]

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by the return of the gendarme all the information you have, your position and the time you will arrive tomorrow in front of Meissen.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19980. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAYNICHEN.

Nossen, May 7, 1813, five o'clock in the afternoon.

Count Bertrand, our vanguard is at Wilsdruf. It is proper that you leave tomorrow at the best time possible to enter Dresden. You can put your cavalry, a good part of your artillery and a good avant-garde to work faster.

Arrived at Tarandt, you will be only a league from Wilsdruf, and you will be able to communicate. Let us know what time your three divisions will arrive tonight, and what time you can start tomorrow,

General Lauriston arrives tonight on Meissen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

1998. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE,
GRAND SQUIRE OF THE EMPEROR, IN NOSSEN.

Nossen, May 7, 1813.

The caissons of the new model which have been made contain twenty quintals of flour, which for four horses makes five quintals per horse; it's not a lot, but it's tolerable. Twenty quintals of flour make 1,800 rations of bread; thus one of these caissons carries flour for a battalion for two days; five of these boxes would carry flour for ten days; but, if we load these boxes of bread, they do not carry more than 900 rations: I would thus desire a model of box which did not weigh more than the current box and which could however carry twenty quintals of flour as currently, or, if we rolled, 1,800 rations of bread and even more 1,800 rations of biscuit.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[277]

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19982. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUC DECRES (1),
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Nossen, May 7, 1813.

We must reorganize the maritime inspection of the coast of the 32nd division.

Send Rear-Admiral Lhermitte and what is needed to reorganize the 32nd Division and monitor the coasts. Adopt a model barge and building for the defense of the mouths of the Elbe, Weser and Jahde.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19983. - TO FREDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT STUTTGART.
Nossen, May 7, 1813.

Brother, since the 2nd I have pursued the enemy army, which burned all the bridges and did everything it could to delay my march. The Prussians retreated to Meissen, and the Russians to Dresden. There have been various rear-guard battles at Gersdorf, Waldheim, Hartha and Blankenstein, where the enemy has lost prisoners. All the villages on the road are full of his wounded and his dead. I think I will be in Dresden tomorrow, or at least in the part of the city on this bank.

The Prince of the Moskva walks on Wittenberg to maneuver on the right bank.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

19984. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENSE,
GRAND SQUIRE OF THE EMPEROR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, May 8, 1813.

Send the Prince of Neuchatel, Baron de Montesquiou, on the straightforward field, for Prague, with the attached letter for M. de Serra.

To M. DE SERRA,
MINISTER OF THE EMPEROR, IN DRESDEN.

Sir, the Emperor has arrived at Dresden, and made a bridge on the side of the village of Briesnitz. Tomorrow and after, the army will pass to pursue the enemy.

"You will find attached a letter from General Reynier and one from the Prince of Moskova, which will inform you of the conduct of the

1) Appointed duke by decree of April 13, 1813.[278]

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General Thielmann. You will be pleased to go to M. de Senft's at once, and ask him for explanations on this subject. You will inform him that M. de Metternich has declared to M. de Narbonne that Austria has no treaty with Saxony; that the court of Saxony fell there Prague like a bomb. You will add, moreover, that Austria has nothing to do with Confederation, and that to attack the principles of Confederation is to declare war on the Emperor; that the Emperor has complained to the King; that the interest and the friendship which the Emperor brings to the king has brought him up to now to patience, but that, circumstances becoming urgent, you can give only six hours to the court of Saxony to satisfy on the following points:

1. To order General Thielmann to leave Torgau with his troops, to return to the organization of the 7th corps under the command of General Bernier;

2. To set in motion without delay all the cavalry, without; exception, to go to Dresden;

3. That the King may declare, by a letter to the Emperor, that he is still a member of the Confederation; that he knows the commitments that this link imposes; that he wishes to fulfill them, and that at last he has no power with any power contrary to the principles of Confederation. You will not fail to observe that the King of Saxony has dishonored, with gaiety of heart, the Polish eagle which his ancestors had, on the contrary, honored; that, finally, he did what could be more contrary to the honor and the interests of the Emperor, by making a truce with Austria for the disarmament of the Poles: something he had not right to do, since these troops were under the orders of the Emperor.

"If the above three points are not granted without delay, you will kindly inform the king That I declare him a felon, out of my protection, and that consequently he has ceased to reign. Get your passports and leave without delay for Dresden."

P.S. If M. Serra is at Prague, M. de Montesquiou will hand him this letter, if he is not there, as M. de Montesquiou does not have the character to fulfill all that this mission would require, he will open the letter, and will simply take it to M. de Senft, asking for his answer on the spot, ordering nothing else! only six hours to Prague.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[279]

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19985. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 8, 1813, in the evening.

My cousin, give General Bertrand orders to push forward a division on Pirna tomorrow, to rally his two other divisions, to place pickets on the different roads which lead to Bohemia in order to know what is going on, and to have a good cover. on the rear.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

19986. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 9, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, let the Prince of Moskova know that we have entered Dresden and are building a bridge to pass on the right bank; that I sent a member of the regency to Torgau; that, besides, we shall have a reply from the King in forty-eight hours; that, in any state of affairs, it is important that he arrives quickly on Wittenberg; that he should join his body, that of the Duke de Bellune and that of General Sebastiani; let him leave General Reynier in the position where he has placed him; that I order General Lauriston to leave a division at Meissen and to go between Torgau and Meissen in order to support General Reynier.

Let General Lauriston know our arrival here. Order him to leave his divisions at Meissen, and immediately to burn the blockhouses and destroy all the works which the Prussians have done, and to carry himself with the rest of his corps between Meissen and Torgau. Tell him that General Beynier is, with Durutte's division, opposite Torgau; that he will be charged with supporting him, and may thus, according to the circumstances, go to Torgau or Meissen; that the prince of the Moskva is on Wittenberg; that he links his communications with him well.

Order the Viceroy to have all the works which the Russians have done at the head of the Dresden Bridge destroyed in the night, to make a bridge between Briesnitz and Dresden, and to at once a palisade up on the bridge crest. Give the same order to the general commander in chief of the engineers of the army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[280]

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19987. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 9, 1813, seven o'clock in the evening.

Cousin, give orders to the Viceroy to occupy this night by a battalion the house which you had occupied on the right bank by a company of voltigeurs. This battalion will barricade and retreat there. Order that two battalions be at the head of the bridge, and that there be a brigadier-general; that the three divisions of the 11th corps should all be assembled tomorrow at nine o'clock in the morning, with their artillery on the forearm, in order to make the passage; that for this purpose the viceroy carries his headquarters there at seven o'clock.

Here are the provisions of the passage: the three batteries of 12 of the Guard, forming twenty-four pieces of cannon, will be on the left of the village which flanks the plain, as well as sixteen pieces of horse artillery of the Guard, which will make forty pieces of artillery which will flank the whole line; the forty other pieces of artillery of the Guard will be in battery on the heights of right and left of the bridge; all the artillery of the 11th corps will be on the front and resupplied, to cross the bridge; each brigade will pass with its artillery. The divisions will be reunited in battle, the left at the height of the bell-tower of the village on the left, the right in the village on the right, and as many lines as will be necessary to place the whole troop; a division will be thrown into the village on the right. We will not pass any cavalry. There, I will give orders according to the dispositions of the enemy. The purpose of the day tomorrow is only to descend to the right bank, to take the other part of the city called Neustadt and to take a position on the heights. Give orders accordingly to Generals Sorbier and Dulauloy. The Guards artillery battery will remain in the city to be placed on the bastion and the bridge. All the rest will be in battery to protect the passage, if necessary, so that the artillery of the 11th corps can pass.

Order General Rogniat to send a company of sappers and an engineer officer to retrench on the other bank. Order General Bogniat to take all the necessary measures to reunite the carpenters and other workmen of the town, in order to be able to repair the bridge of the city as soon as he is mastered on the other side.

Order General Bertrand to support with his division on[281]

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the city and come to stand between Pirna and Dresden; to the Duke de Regaio, to advance two leagues from Dresden; to the Duke of Ragusa, to be ready to leave at eight o'clock in the morning, with his artillery and in a march of war, to cross the bridge and support the Viceroy; to the young Guard, to be under arms; to the old Guard, to do the service of the place. You will order that all that belongs to General Latour-Mauhourg, cuirassiers and light cavalry, join the corps of this general in the day of today or tomorrow malignant. Order that all the 1st corps of cavalry commanded by General Latour-Mauhourg be assembled at noon tomorrow in the plain before the raft bridge - I will review this cavalry, let it have with it its light artillery. the orders are severe to the viceroy, so that no wing, except the artillery, will pass tomorrow, for which purpose all the carriages will be parked in a place to be designated out of the city, between Dresden and the bridge, and also order that the cavalry do not take any of the men, any carriages, oars, or carts under any pretext, to prevent him from coming in. who will come forward to cross the bridge will be burned and horses confiscated for artillery.

Command that the troops that will have to cross the city will cross it in good condition and in a military way. The Duke of Treviso, Count Bertrand, and the Duke of Ragusa will be at nine o'clock on a hill near the bridge, where I myself will be.

According to the minute. Deposit do war.

19988. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LANGEN-REICHENBACH.

Dresden, May 10, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

I threw a bridge yesterday near the village of Briesnitz, 5 or 600 infantrymen who had been there by boat were attacked by the enemy; but they were protected by sixty pieces of cannon which swept the flat plain. A lively cannonade took place until three o'clock in the afternoon; the enemy lost a thousand men and could do nothing to our workers, who established the bridgehead. I have the garlic establish a back and forth, can carry 400 men. The raft bridge will be ready at ten o'clock in the morning.

At this moment General Saxon Gersdorf brings me a letter from the King, with an order for the Place de Torgau and General Thielmann to be at my disposal. You are the master of passing[282]

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by Torgau or Wittenberg; but, as I already suppose on Wittenberg, I send the order to General Lauriston to enter Torgau, and General Reynier to take the command of the Saxon corps, to form a division of 8,000 men, which, with the 4,000 of the Durutte division will make a beginning of the corps. The Saxon cavalry arrives from Prague and will be here in three days; I think the king will come first. My intention is that General Reynier, with his army corps, be under orders; these 12,000 men, joined to the corps of the Duke of Bellune and to General Sebastiani, could put you in a position to do something. General Lauriston might come out of Torgau. If, on the contrary, you had not left, and you preferred to come out of Torgau, General Lauriston would also be under your orders.

According to your minute. Archives of the Empire.

19989 - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

My Cousin, the young Guard will come tonight to live in the suburbs, at the inhabitant.

The viceroy will carry his headquarters in the new city, where he will gather his whole corps, his artillery, his sappers and all that belongs to him, to start the march tomorrow, at daybreak, to continue the enemy.

General Bertrand will gather all his troop, cavalry, infantry, artillery, and arrange to cross the city tomorrow, from eight to nine o'clock in the morning, with his three divisions and all his cavalry at his head, his artillery placed with his brigades and divisions, and in the greatest order.

The Duke of Ragusa will cross the city tomorrow at noon, his corps held up, with his guns and in the best order. He will carry his luggage, with all that may not be beautiful to see, the raft bridge. His cavalry will be at the head.

The Duke of Reggio will go tomorrow to the heights where the young Guard was, to whom it will be forbidden to burn his bivouac, so that he may serve the Duke of Reggio.

Headquarters will travel to Dresden. All the artillery of the Guard and the Guard on foot and on horse will be placed around Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[283]

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19990. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Prince of Moskva and to General Lauriston that I passed the Elbe today, that I restored the bridge at Dresden, and that tomorrow at noon the army, even the duke, of Reggio, will be on the right bank; that General Lauriston must recall General Maison, so that his whole corps may pass to Torgau; that the prince of the Moskva must also pass on the right bank; that I will send him orders as soon as I know positively whether he is going to Torgau or Wittenberg; that the information is that all the Russians are withdrawing through Silesia; that, as to the Prussians, it has not returned more than 20,000 from the battle, and that supposing that they receive on the way 10,000 reinforcements, they can not be more than 30,000 men,

NAPOLEON

According to the original. Deposit of war.

19991. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

Cousin, write to General Reynier, whom I disapprove of having written to the King of Saxony; that henceforth he should abstain from all correspondence with the King of Saxony and his ministers; that he must apply to you for all these things, and that, in case your staff is too far away, he must at least address my minister to the court of Saxony, but never write directly neither to the king nor to his ministers.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19992, - TO GENERAL BARON ROGNIAT,
COMMANDING THE ENGINEERING OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

Present me tomorrow a project of bridgehead for the Briesnitz bridge, as well as for the construction of three batteries at the height of the village which flanks the whole plain. Each of these batteries, barbette, can hold eight pieces of cannon.

Apart from the raft bridge, a bridge of boats will be built between the current bridge and the village of Briesnitz. He will be[284]

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planted a few pilots, so that the bridge is protected from the fire that could be thrown into it.

The road from Briesnitz to the main road by which we arrived will be well marked.

I will be presented with a project of a bridgehead that envelops the entire new city, as well as a definitive project to repair the Dresden bridge in a quick and solid way, protected from overflows and ice.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

19993. - TO THE PRINCE CAMBACERES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

Cousin, here we are in Dresden: I am master of both banks and places of the Elbe. It is likely that I will go to Silesia.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

19994. - TO M. FOUCHÉ, DUKE OF OTRANTE, IN PARIS.

Dresden, May 10, 1813.

The Duke of Otranto, I have informed you that my intention was, as soon as I was able to enter the States of the King of Prussia, to call you near me to put you at the head of the government of this country. The victory of Lützen having put me in the case of rejecting the enemy beyond the Elbe, and my troops advancing on the Oder, I wish that at the receipt of the present you do not lose a moment and that you secretly went to Dresden. You can choose two or three people to trust, those on whose attachment I can not be sure. Try to take some who speak German, but do not bring more than three. As for the other people you will need, you will show me the stall at your arrival. That does not make any noise in Paris. You must be supposed to leave for your campaign, and you are already here that we still believe you at home.

The Regent alone is aware of your departure.

I am very glad to have the opportunity to receive from you new services and new proofs of your attachment,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[285]

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19995. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUC DECRES,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, May 11, 1813.

Monsieur the Duke Decres, I reply to the report of the 21st of April on the battalions of naval workers. the great case of these battalions. All our maneuvers of land force are for them games. It was with difficulty that I saw that General Haxo had the battalion at Magdeburg defeated, and I believe that he lost a hundred men.

My intention is that you should head as quickly as possible to Dresden the battalion which comes from Spain, bringing it to its full extent, and send 200 workers from Antwerp to Magdeburg to complete the battalion which is in that place.

Chat with General Gassendi and General Evain to find out what kind of workmen should be sent to this battalion to build bridges and repair wagons.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

19996. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 12, 1813, in the morning.

Cousin, let the Duke of Taranto know that the army of the Elbe is dissolved; that he has the command of the 11th corps; that he must correspond directly with you; that his cavalry will be composed of two squadrons of the 4th Italian chasseurs and two squadrons of Würzburg, which will make about 400 men. You will let him know that the vanguard of the 4th Corps is at Konigsbrueck today, that I wish his corps to continue its movement to Bischofswerda, the road to Bautzen.

Make known to the viceroy that the army of the Elbe is dissolved; that all that belongs to the staff of the Elbe must join the General Staff.

Tell General Latour-Maubourg also that the army of the Elbe is dissolved; that General Bruyere will continue to enlighten the movements of the Duke of Taranto.

Let me know when General Fresia passes here with his division; I want him not to cross the bridge without my being warned, because I want to see him.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[286]

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19997. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 12, 1813.

Cousin, order the Prince of the Moskva to send the 2nd corps to Torgau, which is commanded by the Duke of Bellune, as well as General Sebastiani, and the division of the 1st corps, commanded by General Philippon; I do not understand that today, 12th, all these corps have not joined.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

19998. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. May 12, 1813.

My Son, leave tonight, and go to Munich to take you from there to Italy. I order the minister of war to put under your orders the troops who are in my kingdom, Italy and the Illyrian provinces.

You will find in Italy the orders I gave for the formation of an observation corps of the Adige. My intention is to increase it to eighty or ninety battalions, so many French and Italian troops, to make them exaggerate still more by public opinion, in order to have the ascendancy there. on Austria, and that it is me who threatens it, and not it. Do what is necessary to make it appear that the troops are going to Tyrol in Dresden.

You will be made aware, through Augsburg, of the state of the 9th Battalion of military crews and artillery of the 4th and 12th corps.

I had ordered to buy 1,000 horses and 200 wagons to arrive in Ulm: make sure that these wagons were bought and that they left well hitched for Dresden.

General Grenier will command the observation corps of the Adige, which is destined to be composed of four divisions; but, if my affairs with Austria were obscured, I would form three corps, each of two divisions, which, at the rate of twelve to fifteen battalions by division, will form eighty to ninety battalions. You will take care to ensure the training of the conscripts until the month of September. As long as they have received jackets, pants and hoods, they can be considered dressed.

It is important to visit the cadres of the 4th Battalions, in order to[287]

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appoint to the vacant places and give the retirement to the officers who can no longer serve.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy Comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

19999. - TO FRÉDERIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. May 12, 1813,

I am glad to hear that your Majesty is arriving at Dresden, and has slept that night halfway to Tœplitz. I feel a real satisfaction in resettling it in its capital, and returning to it its states, which Providence has wished me to deliver from its enemies. Your Majesty must never doubt all the sentiments which I bear to him which are unalterable.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20000. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. May 13, 1813.

Cousin, order the Duke of Ragusa to carry the two divisions and his headquarters which are at Dresden half-way from Dresden to Bischofswerda, and taking the road to Radeberg. Or give him to leave his light cavalry with one or two battalions in the direction of Berlin still today, with orders to enlighten all that has passed on this side.

Order General Bertrand to take his headquarters to Konigsbrueck and send advance guards in different directions to find out about the movements.

Order the Duke of Reggio to cross the Dresden Bridge at noon today, and to take up a position with his three divisions in the new town and surrounding villages. His headquarters will be in the new city.

It is necessary that at four o'clock in the afternoon there is no one left: on this side of Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[288]

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20001. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 13, 1813.

Cousin, let the Prince of Moskova know that I have just received news of the Duke of Bellune; that he will be with General Sebastiani and the 1st and 4th divisions of the army, that is to say, with nearly 25,000 men, today 13, at Koethen; that I order him to come to Wittenberg on the 15th at nine o'clock in the morning, and to take a half-march in the direction of Luckau and Berlin; that the cavalry of General Sebastiani may arrive there at a better hour, in order to sweep the whole route; that the bridge of Dessau must be destroyed, if the enemy had one there; that it is my intention that tomorrow, the 14th, the prince of the Moskva will carry with his five divisions on Luckau, where his vanguard may be on the 15th and his headquarters on the 16th; that the same day, 16, he orders the Duke of Bellune to be returned between Wittenberg and Luckau by threatening Berlin; that he places the 7th corps commanded by General Reynier between Luckau and the Duke of Bellune; that he leads General Lauriston on Dobrilugk, where his vanguard will be on the 14th and his headquarters on the 15th; that today, 13, General Bertrand's headquarters are in Konigsbrueck, that tomorrow, 14, he will be near Hoyerswerda, that the Duke of Taranto with the 11th Corps is today, 13, at Bischofswerda, and will be probably on the 14th at Bautzen; that by the 15th the Emperor will take his final determination, according to what the enemy has done, to occupy Berlin or - to order any other movement.

Order the Prince of Moskva that the Puthod division, which belongs to General Lauriston, rejoins him immediately, as well as the foreign regiment and all that belongs to it; that he calls to him the cavalry of General Sebastiani.

Write to the Duke of Bellune that he will receive the orders of the Prince of the Moskva, and that, if he delays in receiving them, the Prince leaving tomorrow to go to Luckau, he, Duke of Bellune, must be the 15th of good time in Wittenberg and have come out with his whole corps in the day, placing some of his avant-garde on Berlin and another on Luckau.

Write to General Reynier that he is under the command of the Prince of Moskva.

Write to General Lauriston the movement he must make.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[289]

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20002. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 13, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Bellune at once that I have received his letter by which he informs me that he will be on the 13th at Koethen: that it is important that he arrive as soon as possible on Wittenberg that he calls to him the foreign regiment which is at Halberstadt, that I do not approve of placing this regiment at Magdeburg; that he also calls to him all the detachments of troops that he finds in his direction, no matter to what corps they belong. He must take the orders of the Prince of Moskova, which will be the 15th in Luckau. The Duke of Belluue must, on the 15th, overtake Wittenberg, to go in the direction of the Prince of the Moskva.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20003. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BOURCIER,
COMMANDING THE DEPOSITS OF CAVALRY, HANNOVER.

Dresden, May 13, 1813.

You still have a lot of late cavalry, but you must have a lot of horses and a lot of horse tack in Wesel and Magdeburg. Continue the return operation. I will shortly be at Berlin, which will enable the prince of Eckmühl to return to Hamburg, to tranquillize the whole 32nd division, and to give you the means to speed up the return. Once in Berlin, I believe that the most favorable point for the establishment of the depot, given the ease with which it can quickly assemble the effects of clothing and equipment, is Magdeburg.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20004. - TO MR MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, PARIS.

Dresden, May 13, 181: 3.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, I receive your letter of May 7th. I know you have made a report to me; but I can not handle the same thing forty times. I have ordered you to pay 500,000 francs to the King of Westphalia; I gave you a credit: you had to pass this sum. I ordered you to send a million to Mr. Bignon three months ago; it was a[290]

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urgent sum: you had to pass it also. You have not succeeded, and yet there were no great difficulties in either case.

As for the 200,000 francs of the secretary interpreter Lelorgne, it was not on the funds of reserve, but on the secret funds of your ministry that they had to take them; you were wrong to take them from the reserve funds; so you have to change it right away.

In circumstances as important as these, my ministers in Munich, Wurzburg, Prague, where M. de Serra was, and in Vienna, could have given me information: none of them can do anything, because they do not have a penny, nor the authorization to make any expense. The Department of External Relations does not help me at all.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20005. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. May 13, 1813, in the evening.

My Cousin, the four divisions of General Latour-Maubourg will be composed in the following manner.

Bruyère Division: the eight French regiments which are now under his command and which count 1,200 horses, the 1st regiment of Italian chasseurs, the regiment of hussars and light Saxon horses; this will form three brigades and 3,600 horses.

Chastel Division: as it is currently formed, already having 1,800 horses.

Bordesoulle division: composed of six regiments of French cuirassiers, who already have 1,200 horses, and two regiments of Saxon cuirassiers of 1,200 horses; total 2,400 horses. This division will also form three brigades.

Lastly, the Doumerc division: composed of the three regiments of cuirassiers and the three regiments of dragoons which compose it today; more, of the Italian regiment Napoleon.

Total of the corps of General Latour-Maubourg, 9,000 horses: which, with the 4,000 horses of the Guard, will form 13,000 cavalry men, capable of obtaining a great result.

The artillery on horseback of General Latour-Maubourg will consist of French Battery Games that exist, an Italian battery that[291]

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exists, one or two Saxon batteries; total, four batteries or twenty-four guns. The Italian battery will be attached to the division Doumerc. The Saxon battery will be attached to the division Bordesoulle.

It would be fitting, then, that the brigade of Saxon cuirassiers should have crossed the Elbe tomorrow, as well as the battery on horseback, and that the day after to-day the light cavalry might also pass to join General Latour-Maubourg.

all will make it clear how important it is for the country to win a few days, since it appears that the Russians are committing every kind of devastation. You will make known that I assembled that cavalry under the orders of General Latour-Maubourg, which puts together 10,000 men of cavalry.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20006. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TORGAU.

Dresden, May 13, 1813, evening.

The General Staff has made you aware of my intentions. General Sebasliani must have 4,000 cavalrymen; the 1st and 4th divisions of the Duke of Bellune must form at least 12,000 men; Puthod's division, which belongs to General Lauriston, and is at this moment with the Duke of Bellune, is at least 7,000 men; the Duke of Bellune has about 25,000 men under his command. I ordered him to go to Wittenberg, where he will be on the morning of the 15th, and there to take your orders for his movement on Luckau. He will be able to keep within reach or to train your advance guard, if I order you to go by a left to Berlin, or to join you on Luckau, if it becomes necessary. General Beynier must have 12,000 men; hold it preferably on your left.

I do not know your strength; but I suppose that your five divisions, your cavalry, and your artillery make about 40,000 men; General Lauriston, having assembled all his corps, with the exception of Puthod's division, must have, with his artillery, about 25,000 men: you have in your hand an army of nearly 100,000 men, of whom about 5,000 are cavalry men. . The Major General wrote to you that I wished you to go to Luckau, where you will be twenty-two leagues from Dresden and twenty-one leagues from[292]

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Berlin, but still maintaining your communications with Torgau, and that General Lauriston would be tomorrow or after at Dobrilugk.

The Duke of Tarentum is at Bischofswerda, where he had a pretty lively affair with the enemy, and made 1,000 prisoners; General Bertrand is at Konigsbrueck; the Duke of Reggio and the Duke of Ragusa are on the second line on these two roads; the Guard is still in Dresden.

I'm starting to have some cavalry. I organized at General Latour-Maubourg, in his four divisions, about 12,000 men; the Cavalry of the Guard is 4,000 horses and expects many reinforcements at every moment.

I do not yet see what the Prussians have done; it is certain that the Russians retire to Breslau; but do the Prussians retreat to Breslau, as they pretend, or have they flung themselves on Berlin, as seems natural, to cover their capital? This is what the information that I expect this night from General Bertrand, and those that I will probably receive from you, will teach me perfectly. You feel that with forces as large as those you command, it is not the case to rest. To clear Glogau, to occupy Berlin, to put the Prince of Eckmühl in a position to reoccupy Hamburg and to advance with his five divisions in Pomerania, to seize Breslau, these are the three important goals which I propose to myself and which I would like to fill all three in the month. By the position that I make you take, we will always find ourselves together, being able to carry us on the right or on the left and with the most masses possible, according to the information.

The head of the Saxon cavalry arrived today. These are 3,000 good horses that I gather at General Latour-Maubourg and which do us a great good.

The King of Saxony made a triumphant entry yesterday to Dresden; he dines today with me.

Take advantage of locals to write to me often and promise great rewards for those who will promptly report back to you.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20007. - TO MARSHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN TORGAU.

Dresden. May 14, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

I receive positive news about the movement of General Blücher,[293]

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General York, General Kleist, the King of Prussia, and the five or six princes of his family; all passed on the 10th and 11th, on Konigsbrueck, coming from Grossenhayn and Dresden, and proceeding to Bautzen, the road to Breslau. It does not seem doubtful whether Berlin is deranged, and that there are only a few horsemen and Bülow's corps to cover this city; this renders the orderly movement more necessary.

Return to General Lauriston what belongs to him, so that he may strengthen the army, if the enemy wishes to receive battle, as the Russians and the Prussians together say. Their rear guard shows 30,000 men and a lot of artillery; they cover the small town of Bautzen; they burn the villages as in the last campaign.

I eagerly await news of your army and the information you will have; but those whom I have received here, on the passage of the greater part of the Prussian year by the Silesian road, are certain.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20008, - TO MARSHAL MACDONALD, DUKE OF TARENTE, COMMANDING THE 11th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN BISCHOFSWERDA.

Dresden, May 14, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

The news that I receive leads me to think that the enemy has stopped the work he was doing at Bautzen, that the bulk of the army is gone, and that he has given up the idea of making a strong resistance on this point. You will already have some clues on that. It is advantageous that you enter this city, in order to expand, if it can be done with a simple vanguard affair.

If you go to Bautzen, you will ask the Duke of Ragusa to come and live in Bischofswerda.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20009. - TO MARSEHAL NEY, PRINCE OF MOSKOVA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT TORGAU

Dresden, May 14, 1813.

You have not yet sent me the state of your corps since the battle, so that I do not know what you have with you. I desire you to send me, by the return of the present officer, the state of the presents under arms and detachments, as well as the state of your cavalry[294]

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and your artillery. You feel how essential these teachings are.

According to several reports, it seems that the enemy evacuate Bautzen to go further. I suppose that today or tomorrow the Duke of Bellune will arrive at Wittenberg, and that you and General Lauriston are moving for the direction I have given you. I only wait for your news and to know positively where your army will arrive, to leave myself from Dresden.

The enemy commits horrors, burns the villages and does everything he has done in Russia: it will be a good lesson for the Germans,

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20010. - To M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN PARIS,

Dresden, May 14, 1813,

Monsieur the Duke of Bassano, the Comte de Narbonne complains very much of the aide-de-camp of the King of Naples, Prince Cariati, who is at that moment in Vienna, where he behaves very badly and sees only our enemies. Send a courier to my minister at Naples to make known my extreme dissatisfaction with all the bad intelligence that the King maintains, to call for the recall of Prince Cariati and to make sure to return from the bad system that appears to have embraced, and which could lead to the ruin of the King of Naples. He will give a formal note on this.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives

20011. - TO MARSHAL MACDONALD, DUKE OF TARENTE,
COMMANDING THE 11th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BISCHOFSWERDA

Dresden, May 15, 1813, ten o'clock in the evening,

The orderly officer Laplace arrives at this moment and informs me that you have taken a position vis-à-vis Bautzen.

General Bertrand had his vanguard yesterday at Klostermarienstern and his headquarters at Camenz; he must be two leagues from Bautzen today, I hope you have communicated: he is on your left.

I have ordered the Duke of Reggio to go ahead of Bischofswerda, and this way the four corps will be in line.

The Prince of Moskva and General Lauriston have since left[295]

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two days from Torgau to turn Bautzen. If the enemy continues to stay strong, take a good position; make it by a few flèches, and be in good agreement with General Bertrand. The arrival of the two corps, which make 60,000 men, will put us in a great superiority. At the same time, 40,000 men are marching on Berlin. The corps of General Latour-Muubourg, who is about to leave, is getting organized; He now has 12,000 horses.

I send you a report which seems very extraordinary; have it checked.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20012. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 16, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, send the attached letter to the Duke of Treviso. Let General Beaumont know that he is under the command of this marshal.

Order General Latour-Maubourg to send, to join Bruyere's division, all the detachments of cavalry which belong to him, except the Italian chasseurs regiment which must be of the expedition of today. You will let him know that he has set off immediately with all the cavalry belonging to General Chastel, with the Italian brigade, with the Saxon cavalry, and finally with his cuirassiers and dragoons, which will 6,000 horses. He will leave before Dresden all the detachments of cavalry belonging to General Sebastiaui. He will find attached to this order the position of General Beaumont, who has 1,500 horses and which will be under his command, as well as the two battalions of French infantry that this general. He will take General Beaumont to Grossenhayn. The Duke of Treviso, under whose orders he will be, leaves with the division of the young Guard.

You will make known to. this marshal whom he will have under his orders General Latour-Maubourg, who has nearly 6,000 men of cavalry, General Beaumont, who has 1,500, and two battalions of light infantry, and finally the division of the young Guard. He will leave this division in echelons, a brigade a league from here, a brigade half-way, and one that he will lead with him, so as not to tire it unnecessarily. His expedition has two ends: (1st) to arrive early at Grossenhayn, to hide as much as possible from the enemy the great quantity of cavalry which he has, in order to follow him with all that cavalry, of him[296]

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to remove his artillery and his infantry, if he has any, and to pursue him in a continuous and relentless manner so as to disperse him; (2nd) to communicate with General Lauriston, who arrived yesterday at Dobrilugk, and with the Prince of Moskova, who arrived yesterday at Luckau. The enemy having many patrols scattered on the Elbe, he will take information wherever he can have it, and have it continued. As General Beaumont already has two battalions half-way, the Duke of Treviso can choose the four battalions of the Guard to walk with him. General Beaumont has four pieces of cannon, General Latour-Maubourg has twenty-four pieces of light artillery; this is more than enough. It is necessary that he should keep the young guard in reserve, as I have said before, so as not to wear it out unnecessarily, and to put it in a position to attack Bautzen. He will establish his communication with General Lauriston, as soon as he believes that there is no danger. From Grossenhayn, he will direct on Dobrilugk all the cavalry belonging to General Chastel (I believe there are 7 to 800 men here), by having them accompany as much as it will be necessary, De Grosseuhayn he will write, by locals and the couriers of the country, to the general Lauriston to make him know the movement which it makes, and so that this one sends a division to its meeting until Elsterwerda. If there was any gathering of the enemy near Ortrand, the Duke of Treviso would also march there, in order to purge this side entirely. General Beaumont, who has been in this position for several days, has information as to the enemy; we must try to surprise him, because he does not expect to fight against a superior cavalry.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20013.-TO MARSHAL MORTIER, DUKE OF TREVISO, COMMANDING THE YOUNG GUARD, TO DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 16, 1813, nine o'clock in the morning.

I have told you, in my order this morning, not to needlessly tire the young Guard, which will become important to direct on Bautzen. It seems to me difficult that today there can be infantry behind Grossenhayn. go General Lauriston's movement that they can not ignore; it is possible that the cavalry even went away. In this case, do not weary your troops unnecessarily; only set in motion what will be needed to[297]

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send to General Lauriston the 8 or 900 men belonging to the Chastel division, and correspond with General Chastel. If this enemy column is still in this position, give it a good lesson, since, independently of the Cossacks, there are Prussian hussars, who will be less able to escape.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20014- TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 16, 1813.

Tell General Haxo, who must be in Hamburg, to have Tallgermünde's plan lifted, because if between 4 and 500 men and five or six pieces of cannon could hold there, it could be occupied as a post. Besides, the place of Tungermünde has nothing in common with my projects on the mouth of the Havel and the Plauen Canal. A place at the mouth of the Havel and another at the mouth of the Plauen are indispensable; but I reserve to have them built when I am master of the right bank.

If at the mouth of the Havel we find a favorable position, we can begin the work on the spot, if there are the same inconveniences as at Plauen, nothing must be done now.

If General Haxo thinks that with six pieces of cannon 4 or 500 men can successfully occupy Tangermünde, and that the castle can hold fifteen or twenty days, that he orders the work on the spot. It would be like a Magdeburg star. But it is necessary that with Howitzers and pieces of campaign one can not take this post, without which it would be a useless expense.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20015, - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, May 16, 1813.

Count Mollien, I am surprised to see that the expenses incurred for the transport of troops amount to 829,352 francs. I see in detail a lot of useless things. This extraordinary measure must be ordered only by myself, unless one understands the transports by the Rhine, which are an economy instead of being an expense. It is my intention that these expenses be divided into two parts: (1st) those which concern the Guard; they will be brought to the Ministry of War, chapter of the *Marches de la Garde*; (2nd) the[298]

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others to the administration of war, chapter of the Steps, It is, indeed, an economy for stage expenditure. The Minister of War Administration must organize a regular service on the Rhine, since this means of transport saves time, money and fatigue for the troops conducted as well. Make the excerpt of this letter known to the Minister of War Administration.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

20016. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 17, 181, two o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, send a letter to the Duke of Treviso, so that today the Guards and Latour-Maubourg cavalry retrograde and take up a position between Dresden and Bischofswerda, so that on the 18th they can return to the camp. in front of Bautzen. Write to General Bertrand that I am surprised that he has not yet done so in the mutiny of the 16th, his junction with the Duke of Taranto; so that with his corps he must approach Bautzen, and take the same line of operation as the Duke of Taranto by Bischofswerda; that he may leave observation corps at Camenz; that this movement is very urgent, since the enemy has all his army at Bautzen.

Write to the Duke of Taranto that the information received from all sides leaves no doubt that the enemy will fight against Haulzen; that I suppose that General Bertrand will have placed himself on his left with his body; that the Duke of Reggio will also be in position; that in the day of the 18th, all the young Guard and the Latour-Maubourg cavalry will be returned to the camp; that the Emperor managed it with his own person, and that the Prince of the Moskva will be restored to the position he is to occupy with 60 to 70,000 men.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20017. - INSTRUCTIONS (1) FOR GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, AT DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 17, 1813.

The essential thing is to talk to each other. You will let me know of the headquarters

(1) These instructions were dictated by the Emperor.[299]

what has been said. Knowing the views of the Emperor Alexander, we will eventually get along. My intention in the surplus is to make him a golden bridge, to deliver him from the intrigues of Metternich. If I have sacrifices to make, I prefer that it be for the benefit of the Emperor Alexander, who makes good war, and the King of Prussia, to which Russia is interested, that for the benefit of the Austria, who has betrayed the alliance, and who, under the title of mediator, wants to arrogate to himself the right of disposing of everything, after having done the part which suits him.

Moreover, before the battle to be fought, the Emperor of Russia must not yet look at himself as strongly engaged in the struggle. This consideration, which the Lützen affair can not destroy, must bring this prince to an understanding with me, because this battle will necessarily be very deadly on both sides, if, if the Russian lose it, they will leave the party, but as vanquished foes instead of dealing today, and obtaining good conditions for his ally the King of Prussia, and without the intervention of Austria, the Emperor Alexander would prove to the Europe, that peace is due to her efforts, to the success of her arms, in this way, this prince will come out of the fight in an honorable manner, and nobly repair the failure of Lützen. All the honor of this peace would be, therefore, to the Emperor Alexander alone, while, by using the mediation of Austria, that last power, whatever might be the event of peace or war, would have seem to have put the destiny of all Europe in the balance.

Russia can not have forgotten the march of the contingent of Austria in the preceding campaign, and the Emperor Alexander must be pledged to be able to make peace with the help of this power, which, having been so little friend in difficult circumstances, is driven only by a personal interest in leaving the ranks of his recent alliance with France. At last the Emperor Alexander must seize with joy this opportunity of avenging himself with the splendid diversion of the Austrians in Russia.

So, without stopping at this or that part of the instructions, you have to look for a direct negotiation on the basis. Once we come to talk to each other, we will always end up agreeing.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.[300]

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20018. - TO FRANCOIS Ist, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, AT THE CHATEAU OF LAXENBURG.

Dresden, May 17, 1813,

Dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, what your Majesty tells me in his letter of interest in me has touched me deeply. I deserve it from the feelings so true that I bear him. If your Majesty takes any interest in my happiness, let it heal my honor. I am determined to die, if need be, at the head of what France has of generous men, rather than to become the laughing stock of the English and to make my enemies triumph. May your Majesty think of the future; that it does not destroy the fruit of three years of friendship and does not renew the past plots which would precipitate Europe in convulsions and wars, the outcome of which would be interminable; that he does not sacrifice to miserable considerations the happiness of our generation, that of his life, and the true interest of his subjects, why should I not say, of a part of his family which is so sincerely attached to his, that Your Majesty never doubts all my attachment.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of S, the Emperor of Austria.

20019. - TO FRANÇOIS 1st, EMPEROR OF AUTHICHE, AT THE CHATEAU DE LAXENBURG,

Dresden, May 17, 1813.

Dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, I have received your Majesty's letter. I kept the Count of Bubna for hours, I told him everything I thought honestly and truthfully. I desire peace more than anyone. I consent to the opening of a negotiation for a general peace and to the meeting of a congress in an intermediate city of the stays of the various belligerent courts. As soon as I am informed that England, Russia, Prussia, and the Allies have accepted this proposal, I will hasten to send a minister plenipotentiary to the Congress, and I will urge my allies to do the same. I do not hesitate to admit even to the Congress the plenipotentiaries of the insurgents of Spain, so that they may stipulate their interests there. If Russia, Prussia, and the other belligerent powers wish to treat without England, I consent to it too. I shall be ready to send my Minister Plenipotentiary as soon as I am informed that this proposal has been approved, and I will bind my allies to do the same, as soon as I know the time of the meeting.[301]

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open convention, it is the intention of the belligerent powers to conclude an armistice, as has been done in several circumstances; and, as known, it has been discussed with the Prince of Schwarzenberg, I am ready to adhere to it. Your Majesty will see in this language, which is the same as I have been for six months, my desire to spare human blood and put an end to the misfortunes that afflict so many peoples.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.

20020, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 18, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, order the Duke of Treviso and General Latour-Maubourg to march ahead of Bischofswerda.

As soon as his head has arrived, the Duke of Reggio will be fully in line. You will reiterate the order to the duke of Reggio to occupy Neukirch and the positions of the right, so that there is no enemy in these woods,

Order General Latour-Maubourg also to have the whole line searched, and vigorously pursue all these Cossacks on the roads of Neustadt and Neukirch.

Order the old Guard, with the reserves of the batteries of the Guard, from seven to eight o'clock in the morning, to go to a day on the road to Bautzen,

Order the Barrois Division to also be ready to leave at eleven o'clock in the morning. I think it would be necessary to have a pound of rice distributed to each soldier of the old Guard and the Barrois division; that would make a reserve for four days in case of embarrassment in the transports.

Reiterate the order to General Bertrand to communicate with General Lauriston and the Prince of Moskova, who arrive today at Hoyerswerda.

I guess the little headquarters is gone. Take away all that is needed for a day of battle. Give me the state of the remaining garrison at Dresden, and all the different troops that may arrive tomorrow or after, infantry and cavalry.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[302]

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20021. - IN PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN

Dresden, May 18, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

My cousin, order General Beaumont to remain under observation to cover Dresden at Moritzburg, with posts at Grossenhayn, at Radeburg, and on the road to Konigsbrueck, and to instruct the headquarters at Bautzen with all movements, and General Durosnel, who remains in Dresden; to send spies and to be well informed on all roads; especially not to be surprised any post. Send this order directly to Grossenhayn, and send a duplicate by the Duke of Treviso, under whose orders General Beaumont was yesterday and the day before yesterday, and who is in a position to know where he is.

NAPOLEON.

According to the moose. Deposit of the war.

20022. - - IN PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF GRANDE ARMEE, DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 18, 1813, four o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, give orders to send off today, before nine o'clock in the morning, for the headquarters, the deck crew, the sappers and all that compose the engineers of the army, leaving what is necessary for the making of the bridge and the works I ordered; they take bread for four days.

Order all the equipment of the bridges, the engineers, the artillery and the military crews, all the caissons to be parked, harnessed or not harnessed, on the left bank, in the place which will be indicated by the general Durosnel, and that nothing remains on the right bank.

Reiterate the order that the hospitals are placed on the left bank. Finally, let the administration know that it is necessary to be able to evacuate the right bank in six hours, if the circumstances required it.

Order the Engineer Commander to leave here what is necessary to continue the work of the bridgehead.

Report to me the officers of the place, the infantry, the gendarmerie, and the cavalry depots to be left at Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[303]

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20023, - TO MARSEHAL OUDINOT, DUKE OF REGGIO,
COMMANDING THE 12th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ROTHNAUSLITZ.

Dresden, May 18, 1813, ten o'clock in the morning,

I sent you the order to send a column of infantry and cavalry to drive the enemy from Neustaat and Neukirch and from all the positions on the right, so that your right supports Bohemia; I guess you did it. If you have not done it, do it without delay. This position of the enemy on our right is shameful and contrary to all the principles of war. There are only Bautzen and Bischofswerda in Bohemia three to four leagues; we must drive the enemy out of there. Take care of it without delay, and tell me by the return of the orderly officer that I am sending you.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20024. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
GENERAL MAJOR OF LARGE ARMY, IN DRESDEN,

Dresden, May 18, 1813, at the malignant,

Cousin, let the prince of Moskova know, by an intelligent officer and by a cipher, that we are within a range of the cannon of the small town of Bautsen, that the enemy occupies the position of head, and where he has makes entrenchments; that on the right are placed the Prussians and on the left the Russians; that I wish that, with General Lauriston and all his forces combined, in a military march, he should go to Drehsa; having thus passed the Spree, he will find himself having turned the position of the enemy; he will take a good position there; that I suppose it is in the case of arriving completely well on the 19th at Hoycrswerda. He will approach us on the 19th, and on the 20th he will be able to go on the position; what will have the effect, or that the enemy evacuates to retreat further, or to put us in a position to attack it with advantage,

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20023. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DUROSNEL,
GOVERNOR OF DRESDEN,

Dresden, May 18, 1813

Count Durosnel, General Fresia will remain in Dresden to command the infantry and cavalry depots. General Beaumont, with 1,000 horses, will be in Moritzburg, having his posts[304]

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on Grossenhuyn, Konigsbrueck, Radeburg, that is to say, on all avenues of Dresden, He has orders to correspond with you and to keep you informed of all the movements of the enemy. You will camp the four battalions which are here within the palisades, on the right bank, so that they are every day, at the break of day, under arms. The men of the depots will be formed into small battalions that you will organize, and they will be charged with a special service. The police will be made by the bourgeois guard. The castle will be serviced by 800 Saxon grenadiers and 100 Saxon cavalry men. These Saxon grenadiers will be in charge of the defense of the bridges.

I ordered that there be twelve pieces of Saxon artillery here; two can be placed on each bastion, to the right and to the left of the city, two on the square which puts the bridge. By this means, six pieces can defend the bridges. Six others may be placed on the right bank, placing two on each bastion of right and left, and two to support the battalions by covering them with palisades.

There will be an officer of the gendarmerie and 50 gendarmes, including the gendarmes of elite, for the police bridges of the city and the right bank; they will be responsible for maintaining order in convoys of wounded or others who arrive. It will happen today, tomorrow and the day after tomorrow, many isolated men; I gave the order to make a state of it; it will strengthen you. There will remain an engineer officer and an artillery officer.

Be careful that the service is done militarily. The artillery will park on the left bank until the end of a battle, so that, if the battle was lost, we could pass on the left bank without losing anything, I ordered that we establish drums to head of the bridges, take care that everyone is under arms at daybreak, and be of your person at the bridges and on the right bank every day, at the rising sun.

Do you hear with the aide-de-camp of the king, General Gersdorf, who is an intelligent man, to know what is going on? Have the palisades of the city prepared today and tomorrow, so that everything is in good condition and well closed, so that the troop can be safe from the Cossacks behind the, palisades on the roadways.

According to the minute, Archives of Empire.[305]

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20026. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GROSS-WELKA.

Dresden, May 18, 1813.

Count Bertrand, I send you a copy of information received from Konigsbrueck. Have you left nothing to occupy Konigsbrueck or Camenz? All remains, the corps of General Lauriston, arriving today at Hoyerswerda, will necessarily clean the country. You must inform General Lauriston of this, so that he will make line division half-way, and you will send a brigade on the Rouie to establish communication and assure it. General Lauriston will have to send to inform the Prince of Moskova that the Emperor lies tonight at the camp in front of Bautzen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

20027. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BERTRAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN GROSS-WELKA

Dresden, May 18, 1813.

Count Bertrand, the Major General must have written to you to correspond with General Lauriston and the Prince of Moskova. They must arrive tonight at Gross-Dœbern and Hoyerswerda. Send strong reconnaissance in infantry and cavalry in this direction, and have it said by an officer or by one of your aides-de-camp, but without writing, or by making a figure, that the Prince of Moskova must maneuver to stir the position of the enemy, to go on Drehsa. General Lauriston and the Prince of Moskova approaching you, it is indispensable to keep in communication with them by your left.

I leave today to go to the headquarters, halfway from Dresden to Bautzen. I will go to camp in the night. Tell me tonight your reports on the enemy and the possibility of maneuvering by your left.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by General Count Henry Bertrand.

20028. - TO MARSHAL MACDONALD, DUKE OF TARENTE,
COMMANDING THE 11th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, BEFORE BAUTZEN.

Dresden, May 18, 1813.

I leave Dresden with all my guard, to go halfway to Bautzen. I'll be at your headquarters at the tip of the[306]

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day to recognize the enemy. Have a sketch prepared for everything you have seen to facilitate my recognition. General Lauriston and the Prince of Moskova must arrive at Hoyerswerda. General Bertrand will be in communication with you.

I ordered the Duke of Reggio to sweep the Cossacks on the right.

I learn that even 12 artillery battery left this morning of Dresden. Send him to meet you tomorrow.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20029. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALE, IN MILAN.

Dresden. May 18, 1813.

My son, I am leaving Dresden today to carry on the enemy, who has concentrated his forces and who has been joined by the corps of Barclay de Tolly on the position of Hocbkirch, on the road to Breslau. He has nothing left to cover Berlin.

Count Bubna came to my headquarters. Austria seems greatly embarrassed by her role.

It is necessary that you train with all the activity of which you are capable the army which will be under your orders. Take care of the organization of your six regiments immediately. You will dress them first in jackets, pants and schakos. General Grenier must have arrived. General Vignolle may take temporary command of a division.

Increase the armaments and supplies of Osoppo, Palmnuova, and the small square of Malghera, near Venice. Do it however without much expense. You must remove all obstacles and buy artillery horses. I do not speak to you about the army of Italy, which is particularly watching you. It is important that Austria see as soon as possible your camped divisions and the armed places. Set an active border policy to know everything that's going on. Let it be said in the newspapers of Turin and Milan, and everywhere, that you will soon have 150,000 men. Organize your ambulances. Give a temporary name to all the vacant posts, and send me the state so that I can take the decrees. Match up with Prince Borghese.

Organize 3 to 4,000 Italian cavalrymen, as well as some forty Italian artillery guns. I stopped the organization[307]

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from your French artillery to ninety-six guns; I will tier it if necessary.

Write to Corfu, by way of land, to send to Home, the 14th light and 6th line, the officers, sergeants and corporals necessary to form the 8th battalions of these regiments. Finally, give yourself all the proper movements to have, at the end of June, an army in Italy, so as to make Austria feel that it can only worry us by being able to oppose an army of 60 to 80,000 men, what he is unable to do.

Encourage the King of Bavaria to fortify in the Tyrol some gorges, some *chiuse* and some small forts, in order to be master of the passages and to contain the inhabitants. Keep an eye on the strongholds, both in France and Italy. If there were any landings, either in Rome or in Tuscany, it is up to you to do so. You will not change the organization of the troops in the 28th, 29th and 30th military divisions, nor in the Illyrian provinces, but, as commander-in-chief of the Army of Italy, you will be made aware of everything and will watch you. all.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg '

20030. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN

Dresden. May 18, 1813.

My son, Count Daru, will have sent you a decree which I took to make the land of Galiera a duchy in favor of your daughter. Have them take possession. My intention is that till the date of this decree the revenues of this land be paid to my private domain, and that since its date they belong to your daughter. I wish that, as a minor, these revenues with interest be placed on the five per cent of France. Assuming that she returns 200,000 francs, it will be 200,000 francs which will be placed on the head of your daughter, which will make an increase of income of 12 or 15,000 francs, all belonging to your Hile and before, as of right, in if she dies, go to her natural heirs. Take possession of the Palace of Bologna, although belonging to the Duchess, it will serve the King of Italy in his travels.

Business continues here to work well.

Exercise a great surveillance in Italy. There is no objection to the Duke of Lodi confidentially acquainting his acquaintances in Vienna with the army assembled in Italy, which is being armed[308]

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the places, and the disposition where one is not to be allowed to do the law. These confidences arriving in the party most ill disposed to the court of Vienna will be useful. The Duke of Lodi is a long time ago in our affairs to be able to make these confidences. I wish to give him the testimony of my satisfaction for the time that he corresponded with me during your absence; let me know what I could do in this regard.

You have been in Italy for so long that I need to repeat to you what I said to you at the beginning: place the troops as far as possible from the Po and the marshes; put very few people in Venice, and very little in Mantua and Peschiera. This is important, especially for young conscripts.

You will be able to write to me by the courier of Paris, and if it were urgent, send me an extraordinary post on Dresden. Watch what Austria is doing. Send agents and report everything.

Let me know if you have kept the number to correspond with me; as I have here, you can use it if you still have it, but I will only use it when I know you have kept it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberq.

20031. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENSE, PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, May 18, 1813.

The Duke of Vicenza, being resolved to all possible means of restoring peace, whether general or continental, we have proposed the meeting of a congress, either in Prague, or in any other place intermediate to the stay of the belligerent powers. We hope that this congress will lead quickly to the restoration of peace, of which so many peoples feel the need. We have therefore determined to conclude an armistice or suspension of arms with the Russian and Prussian armies for the duration of the Congress. Wanting to prevent the battle which, by the position taken by the enemy, seems imminent, and to prevent humanity from useless bloodshed, our intention is that you go to the outposts, where you will ask to be admitted to the Emperor Alexander, to make this proposal to him and to negotiate, conclude and sign any military convention intended to suspend the[309]

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hostilities. It is for this purpose that we write to you the present closed letter, to make use of it if it is asked of you, and in the form of full powers.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archive.

20082. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT HARTAU.

Hartau, May 19, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio that my headquarters will be at Klein-Foerschen this evening, in front of Bautzen, that he will order Lorencez's division to put itself in line with the Pacthod division. The Bavarian division will be in the second line behind Lorencez's division; it will have posts and patrols to the Bohemian border.

From the unsigned original. Deposit of the war.

20033. - TO FRANÇOIS 1st, EMPEROR OF AUTHICHE, AT THE CASTLE OF LAXENBURG.

Wurschen, May 22, 1813, nine o'clock in the evening.

Brother and dear Father-in-law, I fought on the 20th and 21st the Russian and Prussian army, entrenched in the camps of Bautzen and Hochkirch. Providence has given me the victory. I hasten to inform Your Majesty that my health is very good, counting on my interest in me.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the government of the Emperor of Austria.

20034. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT GOERLITZ.

Goerlitz, May 23, 1813.

Cousin, let me know what is going on in Dresden at the time of General Durosnel's troops.

Order also that the Bavarian battalion halfway from Dresden to Goerlitz rejoin his corps; that the battalion of the elites of the Guard which is at Bautzen rejoins the Guard; that the garrison of Bautzen be formed by a Westphalian regiment. Two regiments of Saxon cannon will be furnished to this regiment, of those in Dresden. Name a French general or superior officer [310]

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to order at Bautzen. By these arrangements the garrison of Dresden will be weakened by two battalions. General Durosnel will have 100 men at the intermediate point between Bautzen and Dresden to guard the post.

The commander of Bautzen will be under the orders of General Durosnel, as well as all the other commanders of the French troops in Saxony.

Order that the battalion of the 37th of the line and all that would be in Dresden leave for Goerlitz, leaving in Dresden only the Westphalian battalions, the Saxon grenadiers and the two battalions of the flankers of the young Guard. Order that the other battalion of the flankers of the young Gaude, who must be on the way from Paris to Erfurt, continue his route for Dresden; By this means, the brigade of flankers will be reunited.

Order 3rd Corps to leave Weissenberg, where he is, to go to Goerlitz tomorrow. My intention is that you designate the stage from here to Bautzen; that you appoint a commander there, that you put in gendarmes to guard the post; let this commander have a hundred men under his orders, and cut off a house, so that this little garrison may be safe from all events. By this means, from Dresden here, there will be four days. Appoint a commander for Goerlitz; the garrison will be composed of two battalions. You will have them first furnished by the Saxons of General Reynier.

Let me know what's left in Erfurt, Würzburg and Torgau. Let me know also when the Regiments of Voltigeurs of the Guard, who are organizing at Mainz, will arrive at Erfurt, and finally the movement of a great number of marching battalions which must be en route to the army. Tell me where are the St. Germain division, the Duke of Padua's corps, and the detachments of Italy.

Order that it be established a handling and stores at Gœrlitz.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20035, - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, write to the Baron of Saint-Aignan to let the dukes of Gotha and Weimar know that they have[311]

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to reform their contingents, and arm their towns, so that they are safe from enemy partisans, and prevent the Prussian runners from doing any harm to the country and the French army. This must be common to all the other princes of Saxony, Heuss, Schwarzburg, & c. Cities with more than 2,000 inhabitants will be responsible for the capture of the army and its compound by detachments of inferior force, which they can reasonably resist.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20036. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT GOERLITZ.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

Cousin, let Prince Eckmühl know that I wish that, as soon as he enters Hamburg, he will remain there with a division of Hamburg, and the third, that he will be summoned from Wesel and assembled at Bremen and Hamburg, and that he should leave General Vandamme from Hamburg, with the 2nd and 5th divisions and the necessary artillery, in the direction of Mecklenburg and Berlin, to cover the left flank of the corps which is on Berlin.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20037. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT GOERLITZ.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

Cousin, let me know when the Duke of Padua will arrive at Leipzig, and when he will have a well organized division of 3,000 horses, with two mounted artillery batteries.

Order the Duke of Reggio to leave with the three divisions of his corps d'armee and to maneuver on Berlin. General Beaumont, with the two battalions, the artillery, and the 1,200 horses under his command, will join the Duke of Regaio and be under his command. The battalion which this marshal left half way from Dresden to Bautzen will also join him. The garrison of Bautzen will be composed, as I have already ordered, of the two Westphalian battalions which have left Dresden. not arrived tomorrow when the Duke of Reggio will set out, the duke will leave two of his battalions there until their arrival.[312]

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to operate on Hoyerswerda, where he can be tomorrow; from there, to Luckau and Lübben. You will let him know that the army will march on Glogau, and that his communications will therefore take place by his right; that it is likely that we are today in Bunzlau, where the headquarters will be tomorrow. Also inform the Duke of Reggio that the Duke of Padua will arrive at Leipzig, where he is assembling his cavalry corps, which will soon be 1,000 horses. Tell him that I have at his disposal: 1st) a corps composed of four battalions of the 1st division and two of the 4th; (2nd) two battalions of the 125th and 124th regiments, which are Torgau. These eight battalions will be commanded by one of the brigadier generals who are in Magdeburg. There will be attached a battery of eight pieces of cannon, that is to say the 2nd battery for the 2nd body. The Duke of Begsio will give orders for this division to join him when he is on Berlin; it will increase its strength by eight battalions and eight cannon; its artillery must be in state, since it has fired little in the battle. Its main purpose is to contain Bülow and to reject him beyond the Oder. General Lorencez having been wounded, it would be necessary to send him a general of division.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20038. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT GOERLITZ.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

Cousin, teach Prince Eckmühl about the events that have just happened here. Make it known to me that my intention is to fortify Hamburg with a reduced bare citadel, where 4,000 men can defend themselves for a long time; By this means, these 4,000 men will defend the ramparts all the time and will always have the Citadel's refuge.

I intend to establish a place at the mouth of Havel. This place must fulfill the same role as Wittenberg: Wittenberg is the closest point to Berlin on the upper Elbe; This place of Havel is the nearest point on the lower Elbe, and it will complete the defense of the Elbe. The governor of Magdeburg will supply the battalion which is to remain there, and the commander of Magdeburg will give the necessary funds and the officers of the engineers. The work will be started without delay, and even without waiting for my approval. I am referring to the direction to be given by the governor of Magdeburg. You[313]

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write directly to the governor of Magdeburg, and instruct the Prince of Eckmühl with all these provisions,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

320039. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT GOERLITZ.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

Cousin, order the Duke de Valmy to send General Dombrowski with his infantry, cavalry, and artillery, directing him directly to Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20040. - TO GENREAL BARON ROGNIAT, COMMANDING THE ENGINEERS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813

Circumstances bring me to attach a new importance to the citadel of Wurzburg. Give me before my eyes the sums which I have granted for this citadel on the funds of the army of the Main, and let me know those which are necessary to put it in state. Order the proper work on the spot and provide the necessary funds

From the minutes. Archives of the Empire.

20041. - TO GENREAL BARON ROGNIAT, COMMANDING THE ENGINEERS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Goerlitz. May 24, 1813.

Reiterate your orders that on the 1st of June the bridgehead of Dresden be completely finished, that it be well palisaded and protected from a hand, finally that it can play its full role: The palisades must to be big trees. Give orders for the Dresden Bridge to be repaired so as to be free from ice and floods. The architect of the city must be responsible for these repairs, which must be made before June 10, and in a solid way, my intention then being to retrofit the boat decks.

Give orders for the post already established for a battalion between Dresden and Bautzen to be defended by 100 men who would be safe from enemy light cavalry.[314]

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Have Bautzen recognized, and put this place in a state of defense by establishing drums at the gates and establishing the points to be taken by the two battalions who will occupy this city. The castle will be put in order so that these two battalions can retire there as in a small house.

Establish between Bautzen and Goeditz, at Weissenberg, to the point that you determine, a house entrenched and palisaded, where 100 men can be safe from enemy cavalry.

Have Goerlitz recognized as well. You will establish on the height of the right bank a good palisaded redoubt, with a blockhouse, arrange the doors and prepare the necessary posts for two battalions to be safe from cavalry attacks.

Send 100, 000 francs to Wittenberg, for the work to be done with the greatest activity; we must not waste a moment to push the work of the fortifications, even until I have adopted a definitive project. My intention is to make Wittenberg a permanent place and one I will keep; present me the necessary projects; I will spend 5 or 600,000 francs there. It is necessary to calculate the work so that every month the situation of the place becomes better, so that this important point of the Elbe is fully occupied.

My intention is also to establish a place on the Elbe, halfway from Hamburg to Magdeburg, it the mouth of the Havel. The Magdeburg Engineering Commander will be responsible for the construction of this fort. At first it will be occupied only as a post, but it will be increased successively, so that I will have on the Elbe Konigstein, the bridgehead of Dresden, Torgau, Wittenberg, Magdeburg, this place of Havel and Hamburg. As for Hamburg, I am waiting for the plans I had drafted to definitively stop the project. I ordered that 1,200 men be posted at the mouth of Havel. The fort must be established at the mouth of the canal, so as to make head of the pool on the right bank, and to cover the bridge which it is important to have on this point, which is nearest to Berlin on the lower Elbe.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20042. - BULLETIN OF THE GREAT ARMY.

Goerlitz, May 24, 1813.

Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia attributed the loss of[315]

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the battle of Lützen to the faults committed by their generals in the direction of the combined forces, and especially to the difficulties attached to an offensive movement of 150 to 180,000 men. They resolved to take the position of Bautzen and Hochkirch, already famous in the history of the Seven Years' War, to gather all the reinforcements they expected from the Vistula and other points back, to add to this position all that art could furnish, and there to run the chances of a new battle; all the probabilities seemed to them to be in their favor.

The Duke of Taranto, commanding the 11th corps, had left Bischofswerda on the 15th, and was on the 15th in the evening within a cannon range of Bautzen, where he recognized the whole enemy army. He took a position.

From that moment, the French army corps were sent to the camp of Bautzen.

The Emperor left Dresden on the 18th; he slept at Hartau, and on the 19th he arrived at ten o'clock in the morning, in front of Bautzen. He used all day to recognize the positions of the enemy.

It was learned that the Russian corps of Barclay de Tolly, Langeron, and Sass, and the Prussian corps of Kleist, had rejoined the combined army, and that its strength could be estimated from 150 to 160,000 men.

On the evening of the 19th, the position of the enemy was as follows: his left was supported by mountains covered with wood and perpendicular to the course of the Spree, about a league from Bautzen. Bautzen supported his center. This city had been crenellated, cut off and covered by redoubts. The enemy's right was supported by fortified nipples that defended the outlets of the Spree, on the side of the village of Nimmschütz: all its front was covered on the Spree. This very strong position was only a first position.

At a distance of 3,000 fathoms back, we could see distinctly fresh earth, and works which marked their second position. The left was still supported by the same mountains, 2,000 fathoms behind those of the first position, and far ahead of the village of Hochkirch. The center was supported by three entrenched villages, where the Fon had done so much work, that they could be considered as strongholds. A marshy and difficult terrain covered three quarters of the center. Finally their right was leaning, behind the first position, villages and mamelons also entrenched.

The front of the enemy army, either in the first or in the second position, could have a league and a half.

According to this recognition, it was easy to conceive how,[316]

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in spite of a lost battle like that of Lützen, and eight days of retreat, the enemy could still have hopes in the chances of fortune. In the words of a Russian officer who was asked what they wanted to do: "We do not want," he said, "to move forward or backward. "You are masters of the first point," replied a French officer; in a few days the event will prove if you are masters of the other. The headquarters of the two sovereigns was at the village of Nechern.

At 19, the position of the French army was as follows:

On the right was the Duke of Reggio, leaning on the mountains on the left bank of the Spree, and separated from the left of the enemy by this valley. The Duke of Taranto was in front of Bautzen, straddling the road to Dresden. The Duke of Ragusa was on the left of Bautzen, opposite the village of Nimmschülz. General Bertrand was on the left of the Duke of Ragusa, leaning on a windmill and a wood, and pretending to come out of Jeschutz on the right of the enemy.

The Prince de la Moskova, General Lauriston, and General Reynier were at Hoyerswerda, on the road to Berlin, out of line and behind our left.

The enemy, having learned that a considerable body was coming through Hoyerswerda, suspected that the plans of the Emperor were to turn the position by the right, to change the field of battle, to make a fine count of all these entrenchments raised with so much pain, and the object of so many hopes. Being only informed of the arrival of General Lauriston, he did not suppose that this column was more than 18 to 20,000 men. On the 19th, at four o'clock in the morning, he detached General York, with 12,000 Prussians, and General Barclay de Tolly, with 18,000 Russians. The Russians moved to the village of Klix, and the Prussians to the village of Weissig.

However, Count Bertrand sent General Peyri, with the Italian division, to Konigswartha, to maintain our communication with the detached corps. Arrived at noon, General Peyri read bad dispositions; he did not search the neighboring forest; he placed his posts badly, and at four o'clock he was assailed by a *hurray* which put disorder in some battalions. He lost 600 men, among whom is the Italian Brigadier General Balathier, wounded, two guns and three caissons; but the division having taken up arms leaned on the wood, and faced the enemy.

Count de Valmy, having arrived with cavalry, put himself at the head of the Italian division, and resumed the village of Koenigswarrha.[317]

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At this very moment, Count Lauriston's corps, who was marching at the head of the Prince of Moskova to turn the enemy's position from Hoyerswerda, arrived at Weissig. The fight commenced, and the corps of York would have been crushed, without the circumstance of a parade to pass, which made our troops succeed only successively. After three hours of fighting, Weissig's village was swept away, and York's corps, overturned, was thrown back across the Sprea.

Weissig's fight would be only an important event. A detailed report will reveal the circumstances.

On the 19th, Count Lauriston slept on the position of Weissig, the Prince of the Moskva at Maukendorf, and Count Reynier a league behind. The right of the enemy's position was obviously overflowed.

On the 20th, at eight o'clock in the morning, the Emperor mounted on the heights behind Bautzen. He gave orders to the Duke of Reggio to cross the Spree and attack, the mountains which supported the left of the enemy; to the Duke of Taranto to bridge the trestles on the Spree, between Bautzen and the mountains; to the duke of Ragusa to throw another bridge on trestles on the Spree, in the depression which this river forms on the left, half a league from Bautzen; to the Duke of Dalmatia, to whom his Majesty had given the superior command of the center, to pass from Spree to disturb the right of the enemy; and finally, to the Prince of Moskova, under whose orders were the 3rd corps, Count Lauriston and General Reynier, to approach Klix, to pass the Spree, to turn the right of the enemy, and to carry on his headquarters of Wurschen, and from there on Weissenberg.

At noon, the cannonade began. The Duke of Taranto did not need to throw his bridge on easels; he found before him a stone bridge, the passage of which he forced. The Duke of Ragusa threw down his bridge; all his army corps passed on the other bank of the Spree. After six hours of intense cannonade and several charges which the enemy read without success, General Compans had Bautzen occupied; General Bonet occupied the village of Nieder-Kayna, and took off at a charge a plateau which made him master of all the center of the position of the enemy, the Duke of Reggio seized the heights, and at seven o'clock in the evening the enemy was rejected in his second position. General Bertrand passed one of the arms of the Spree, but the enemy preserved the heights which supported his right, and by this means he remained between the corps of the prince of the Moskva and his army.

The Emperor entered at eight o'clock in the evening at Bautzen, and was received[318]

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by the inhabitants and by the authorities, with the sentiments of happy allies to be delivered from the Stein, Kotzebue, and Cossacks. This day, which one might call, if it were isolated, the battle of Bautzen, was only the prelude to the battle of Wurschen.

However, the enemy was beginning to understand the possibility of being strong in his position. His hopes were no longer the same, and from that moment he must have been the presage of his defeat. Already all his dispositions were changed: the fate of the battle was no longer to be decided behind his entrenchments; his immense labors and 300 redoubts became useless; the right of his position, which was opposed to the 4th corps, became his center, and he was obliged to throw his right, which formed a good part of his army, to oppose it. Prince of the Moskva, in a place which he had not studied, and which he believed to be out of his position.

On the 21st, at five o'clock in the morning, the Emperor went to the heights, three quarters of a league ahead of Bautzen.

The Duke of Reggio supported a sharp fire on the heights defended by the enemy's left. The Russians, who felt the importance of this position, had placed a large part of their army there, so that their left was not turned. The Emperor ordered the dukes of Reggio and Tarente to keep up the fight, in order to prevent the enemy's left from stripping and to mask the real attack, the result of which could not be felt before noon or one o'clock.

At eleven o'clock the Duke of Ragusa marched at a distance of 1,000 fathoms from his position, and engaged a frightful cannonade before the redoubts and all the enemy entrenchments.

The Guard and the reserve of the army, infantry and cavalry, masked by a curtain, had easy outlets to carry forward by the left or right, according to the vicissitudes that would present the day. The enemy was thus held uncertain about the true point of attack.

Meanwhile, the prince of the Moskova overthrew the enemy in the village of Klix, crossed the Spree and led all that he had in front of him to the village of Preititz. At ten o'clock he removed the village; but as the enemy's reserves advanced to cover the headquarters, the Prince of Moskva was brought back and lost the village of Preititz. The Duke of Dalmatia began to open at noon hour. The enemy, who had understood all the danger he was threatened by the direction the battle had taken, felt that[319]

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the only way to sustain the fight against the Prince of Moskva with advantage was to prevent us from coming out. He wanted to oppose the Duke of Dalmatia's attack. The moment of deciding the battle was therefore well indicated. The Emperor, by a movement on the left, advanced in twenty minutes with the Guard, the four divisions of General Latour-Maubourg, and a great quantity of artillery on the side of the right of the position of the enemy. which had become the center of the Russian army.

The Morand division and the Wurtemberg division took away the mamelon which the enemy had made his point of support.

General Desvaux established a battery which he directed the fire on the masses who wanted to take the position. Generals Dulauloy and Drouot, with 60 pieces of reserve batteries, moved forward. At length the Duke of Treviso, with the divisions of Dumoustier and Barrois of the Young Guards, proceeded to the inn at Klein-Baschutz, cutting the road from Wurschen to Bautzen.

The enemy was obliged to strip his right to ward off this new attack. The prince of Moskova took advantage of it and walked forward. He took the village of Preititz, and advanced, having overflowed the enemy army, on Wurschen. It was three o'clock in the afternoon, and when the army was in the greatest uncertainty of success, and a dreadful fire was heard on a line of three leagues, the Emperor announced that the battle was won.

The enemy seeing his right turned retreated, and soon his retreat became a flight.

At seven o'clock in the evening the Prince de la Moskova and General Lauriston arrived at Wurschen. The Duke of Ragusa then received the order to make a reverse movement of that which the Guard had just made; he occupied all the entrenched villages, and all the redoubts which the enemy was obliged to evacuate, advanced in the direction of Hochkirch, and thus took on the flank all the left of the enemy, who then set himself in a terrible rout. The Duke of Taranto, on his side, urged this left, and hurt him a lot.

The Emperor lay down on the road in the middle of his guard at the Klein-Baschütz inn. Thus the enemy, forced in all his positions, left in our power the battlefield covered with his dead and his wounded, and several thousand prisoners.

On the 22nd, at four o'clock in the morning, the French army set in motion. The enemy had fled all night by all the roads and all directions. His first posts were found only beyond Weissenberg, and he resisted only on the heights[320]

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behind Reichenbach. The enemy had not yet seen our cavalry.

General Lefebvre-Desnoettes, at the head of 1,500 horses of Polish lancers and red lancers of the Guard, charged the enemy's cavalry and overthrew into the plain of Reichenbach. The enemy, believing they were alone, advanced a division of cavalry, and several divisions engaged successively. General Latour-Maubourg, with his 14,000 horses and the French and Saxon cuirassiers, arrived to their aid, and several cavalry charges were made. The enemy, surprised at finding fifteen to sixteen thousand cavalry in front of him, when he thought we had none, would turn himself into disorder. The Red lancers of the Guard consist largely of volunteers from Paris and the surrounding area; General Lefebvre-Desnoeltes and General Colbert, their colonel, praise it most. In this affair of cavalry, General Bruyere, general of light cavalry, of the highest distinction, had his leg carried away by a ball.

General Reynier went with the Saxon corps to the heights beyond Reichenbach, and pursued the enemy to the village of Holtendorf. Night took us a league from Goerlitz. Although the day would have been extremely long, since we were eight leagues from the field of battle, and the troops had experienced so much fatigue, the French army would have slept at Goerlitz; but the enemy had placed a rearguard on the heights in front of this town, and it would have taken half an hour more to turn it to the left. The Emperor ordered that we take a position.

In the battles of the 20th and 21st, Württemberg General Franquemont and General Lorencez were wounded. Our loss in these days can be estimated at 11 or 12,000 men killed or wounded. On the evening of the 22nd, at seven o'clock, the Grand Marshal Duke of Frioul being on a little eminence to chat with the Duke of Treviso and General Kirgener, every three feet on the ground and far enough from the fire, one of the last The enemy's bullets skirted the Duke of Treviso, opened the belly to the grand marshal, and threw dead General Kirgener. The Duke of Friuli immediately felt himself struck to death; he expired twelve hours later.

A his bivouacs, the Emperor went to see the Duke of Friuli. He found it with all his knowledge and showing the greatest composure. The duke shook the Emperor's hand, which he put on his lips. " All my life," said he, "has been devoted to your service, and I regret it only by[321]

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the utility of which it could still be you. "Duroc," said the Emperor, "it is another life! This is where you will wait for me, and we will meet again someday. Yes, Sire; but it will be thirty years from now, when you have triumphed over your enemies and realized all the hopes of our country. I lived as an honest man; I do not blame myself. I leave a girl: Your Majesty will serve her as a father. "

The Emperor, shaking with his right hand the Grand Marshal, remains a quarter of an hour with his head resting on his left hand in the deepest silence. The grand marshal broke the silence first. "Ah! Sire, go away; this spectacle is painful to you! "The Emperor, leaning on the Duke of Dalmatia and on the Grand Squire, left the Duke of Friuli without being able to say anything but these words to him:" Adieu then, my friend! His Majesty returned to his tent, and received no one for the whole night.

On the 23rd, at nine o'clock in the morning, General Reynier entered Goerlitz. Bridges were thrown on the Neisse, and the army advanced beyond this river.

On the evening of the 23rd the Duke of Bellune was on Rothenburg; Count Lauriston had his headquarters at Hochkirch, Count Reynier in front of Trofschendorf on the Lauban road, and Count Bertrand behind the same village; the Duke of Taranto was on Schoenberg; the Emperor was at Goerlilz.

A parliamentarian sent by the enemy carried several letters in which it is believed that it is a question of negotiating an armistice.

The enemy army withdrew, by Bunzlau and Lauban, into Silesia.

All Saxony is delivered from its enemies, and tomorrow the French army will be in Silesia.

The enemy burned a lot of luggage, blew up a lot of parks, scattered in the villages a lot of wounded. Those he could carry on carts were not dressed; the inhabitants bring the number to more than 18,000. There remained more than 10,000 in our hands.

The city of Gœrlitz, which has 8 to 10,000 inhabitants, received the French as liberators.

The city of Dresden and the Saxon Ministry have put the greatest activity into supplying the army, which has never been in greater abundance.

Although a large quantity of ammunition has been consumed, the workshops of Torgau and Dresden, and the convoys which arrive under the care of General Sorbier, keep our artillery well supplied.[322]

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We have news from Glogau, Küstrin and Stettin. All these places were in good condition.

This account of the Battle of Wurschen can only be considered as a sketch. The General Staff will collect the contributions, which will make known officers, soldiers and corps that have distinguished themselves.

In the little fight of the 22nd, at Reichenbach, we have acquired the certainty that our young cavalry is, in equal number, superior to that of the enemy.

We could not take flags; the enemy always removes them from the battlefield. We only took 19 guns, the enemy having blown up his parks and caissons. Besides, the Emperor holds his cavalry in reserve, and, until it is sufficiently numerous, he wishes to spare it.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of May 30, 1813.

20043. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DUROSNEL. GOVERNOR OF DRESDEN.

Goerlitz. May 25, 1813.

Your letters to the Major General show me that there was some anxiety in Dresden. I guess they are now dispelled. The Duke of Reggio must be in Hoçerswerda today, walking on Berlin. I march myself on Bunzlau, where the headquarters will be today, and thence on Glogau and Frankfort; and Berlin will be turned. I ordered that General Beaumont join the Duke of Reggio. If, however, against my expectation, the anxieties continued and were founded, you could keep in Dresden infantry, cavalry and artillery that arrive there, General Delaborde should not delay to arrive with the 4th and 5th voltigeurs and a regiment of flankers, which, with the two battalions of flankers who are already at Dresden, will make eight battalions. The 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th will follow them soon.

The Duke of Otranto will soon arrive at Dresden, where he will wait for my orders. My minister can easily present it to the king and the court.

Do not receive anything from the Saxons, either as a table fee or for any other purpose. Put yourself on a decent foot, however, and have a suitable table. I will cover the extraordinary expenses you would have to make.

Bohemia Post is probably continuing to arrive. Do you hear[323]

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with the ministers to withdraw the letters which might give information on the army and on all that Austria does. Make work; with the greatest activity to the works of the new city, so that on the 1st of June all the bastions are armed with pieces of 12 or 6. The necessary artillery will be drawn from Torgau and Konigsberg. Watch over the cavalry depots of Dresden and Leipzig; have a look at Torgau and Wittenberg. Give a little energy to the Minister of the Interior, so that he arms a police guard to stop the partisans, by running them to the sound of the tocsin, especially on the left bank of the Elbe and on the points so far away that the enemy army must not be there.

Regardless of your correspondence with the Major General, I want you to write to me every day. Posts must be well insured; There must be everywhere Saxon gendarmes who will stop the stragglers. Bautzen and Goerlitz and the intermediate stations are sheltered from a helping hand.

Finally, take all the necessary measures to have 10 to 15,000 quintals of flour in Dresden, in order to be able, in all cases, to supply the needs of the army. Complete the handling of twelve furnaces.

I ordered Wittenberg to work hard and send money to the commander of the engineers. Write to General Lapoype. There must be at least 4,000 workers every day. My intention is to occupy this place permanently.

Correspond with the commander of Erfurt to find out what is coming to you, and write that all the detachments are marching in order, since I am assured that partisans have taken 30 cuirassiers, whom they have surprised in a village on the other side Jena.

Compete with the aid of Camp Gersdorf to reform the Saxon contingent and complete the cavalry and artillery.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

20044. - TO FREDERIC-AUGUSTE, KING OF SAXONY, IN DRESDEN.

Goerlitz, May 25, 1813.

I have received the letter which Your Majesty wrote me concerning the battles of the 20th and 21st. I was waiting to answer him for having a moment of liberty, and for having delivered his states from the Russian and Prussian armies. My army occupied yesterday Lauhan, and in that moment we are at Bunzlau. The Duke of Reggio will be tonight at Hoyerswerda, walking on Berlin. It will be necessary for your Majesty[324]

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orders measures to suppress the patrols of Cossacks and partisans who plunder the country and worry the rear of the army. Cavalry brigades and police guards should be organized to assist the gendarmerie and to place some officers there to ensure the tranquility of the country.

General Thielmann having taken service abroad without your Majesty's permission is guilty; he is a criminal, since this foreign service is an enemy, and has brought to the enemy his local knowledge. I would like your Majesty to seize him in his property, and, by a great act of vigor, make known to his subjects his discontent and indignation against those of his servants who take service with his enemies.

I'm going to go to Bunzlau. Although the country has suffered a great deal, I think it is essential that your Majesty should form his army again, in order to protect his States and help me in the war.

The King of Denmark has just written to me that Count Bernslorf has failed in his negotiations, which I already knew from the English newspapers. The English wanted, beforehand, to impose on Denmark the obligation to renounce Norway in favor of Sweden. As a result, animosity is stronger than ever, and Denmark enters into all the links of the alliance, which had only been released for a moment in accordance with my consent, given the critical situation. from this country.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20045. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Bunzlau, May 25, 1813, in the evening.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, write to Baron Saint-Aignan so that he passes a note in the strongest terms to the various princes to whom he is accredited, to show them my dissatisfaction that some partisans who commit robberies on the rear of the army are favored in their states; that I make them responsible; that they must make a general fight to purge the country; that all that will be taken from me will be refunded to me by a contribution which I will put on the country; finally, if this continues, I will end up seeing governments as bad will.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,[325]

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20046. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BUNZLAU.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813, six o'clock in the morning.

The Prince of the Moskva will carry with the 5th and 7th corps on Haynau and will push an avant-garde on Liegnitz and one on Glogau.

General Latour-Maubourg will be on the right, in the direction of Goldberg. He will be joined by the Duke of Ragusa, under whose orders he will be.

The Duke of Ragusa, with the corps of General Latour-Maubourg, will maneuver to cut the enemy's rear-guard and fall on his right flank, communicate with the Duke of Tarentum and Count Bertrand, and will urge the enemy.

The 3rd corps will take up position a league ahead of Bunzlau and will be there at the command of the Prince of Moskova.

The Chastel division will remain with the 5th corps.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20047. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BUNZLAU.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813.

My Cousin, you will send the order to the Duke of Belluno to go to Sprottau, and try to get there today, and if there he learns that something has gone in the direction of Berlin, he will go after him.

NAPOLEON.

P.S. He will send parties in different directions to hear news of Bülow's corps, and whether it has moved closer to the Oder and Berlin or continued its movement on Luckau. Finally, if he learns that the siege of Glogau is up, he will endeavor to communicate with this place; but its chief object must be to be ready to go to Berlin to assist the Duke of Reggio, who is marching on that city, and to fall upon the rear of Bülow.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20048. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BUNZLAU.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813.

Cousin, make my intentions clear to the Duke of Ragusa.[326]

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The enemy, not expecting to have such a large quantity of cavalry on its flanks, could be in a great deal of trouble. The Prince of the Moskva goes to Haynau today. General Bertrand and the Duke of Taranto must have arrived today at Goldberg. If the Duke of Ragusa could take an intermediate position to go to Liegnitz, we might soon arrive at Liegnitz in three columns; however, it must rely on that of the two roads where, according to the information which it will collect, the greater part of the enemy army will have passed.

Send to the Duke de Bellune that I can hardly see that he was one day without a match; that he could send a man of the country who, under the promise of a strong reward, would have crossed the enemy posts, if he had met them; that he take care to gather information at Sprottau and to inform me of it at Bunzlau; for if there had been nothing on the road to Berlin, and Bülow had approached Berlin and the Oder, the Duke de Bellune might be ordered to go to Glogau tomorrow, in order to unblock this square.

Did you make sure the Duke of Reggio received your order?

I am surprised you have not received any news. It should be today on the side of Luckau. Repeat your orders.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20049. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN BUNZLAU.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813,

Order the Duke of Treviso to leave tomorrow at four o'clock in the morning for Liegnitz. Order the old Guard and the Horse Guards to leave at five o'clock to make their way to Liegnitz. Order the engineers to leave at four in the morning for Liegnitz. It is therefore necessary that the regiment of the 3rd corps which is to take the service of Bunzlau be returned at four o'clock in the morning in the city. The 3rd Corps will also depart from its present position to Liegnitz tomorrow at six in the morning. Headquarters will leave at four o'clock in the morning.

NAPOLEON.

From the original, Depot of War.[327]

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20050. - TO COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, BUNZLAU.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813,

Count Daru, present me a draft decree to form a battalion of military ambulance crews. This battalion will be composed of twelve companies; each company will be 50 wagon and a forge; each car will be organized as the ambulances of the Guard: 1 man, 2 horses and a wagon; which will make by company 60 men, 120 horses, including the dead mileage, 50 wagon and a forge; and for the twelve companies, 720 men, 1,440 horses, 600 cars, 12 forges. These wagon will be used mainly to remove the wounded from the battlefield. However, there will be on each wagon a small box containing some bandage, some lint, a choice of instruments, some brandy, and finally the equivalent of the mule ambulance. I give to a battalion, Each of these wagon being able to carry four men, I will have enough to carry 2,400 wounded; but, in order not to increase the cadres and not to induce me in new expenses, one could convert one of the battalions which are organized in France, such as for example that the 14th, which does not have its wagon, in one battalion of this species. This battalion would have to be under the orders of the surgeons of the army. By giving one company to each corps, there would be six more left for the headquarters. Foot-nurses would be attached to this battalion, so that as soon as a man was injured he would not be able to walk he would be put in one of these wings. Make me a project on it. It seems to me that these little cars are good to the Guard, and that they have done a great service. By granting 50 of these wings to a corps d'armee, we could therefore grant 12 to each division, which would be equivalent to the dressing means worn by the 12 platoon horses; which, with that ambulance of the platoon horses, would become so considerable that the ambulances could be reduced.

In the steps, these canopies could also be used to wear tired and weary men to the place where one forms deposits for men who are worn out and exhausted. Make me the estimate of what this new organization will cost.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by M, Count Daru.[328]

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20051. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter of the 20th. We are finally in the middle of Silesia; we are pursuing the enemy keenly. In Paris, the alarm about Austria is much too serious. Things are not at this point; but it is very simple that I am able everywhere. Business here is fine.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

20052. - INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DUKE OF VICENSE, IN RELATION TO ARMSTICE (1).

Bunzlau, May 26, 1813.

The Duke of Vicenza, at eleven o'clock, will go to the village of Neudorf.

He will have a copy certified by him of the closed letter of the 18th of May, and he will deliver it to the plenipotentiaries of the enemy. He will at the same time be provided with a copy of the full powers given by General Barclay de ToIly.

The Duke of Vicenza will notice that we do not agree on the main question, that they do not want a congress and that they want to continue the war, in the hope of dragging Austria into charge of pronouncing it. a sentence, something unbecoming and absurd.

This is not the case to make one feel this impropriety and this absurdity, and to dispute; Above all, it is necessary that the Duke of Vicenza hand over a copy of the closed letter which contains his powers, and which the plenipotentiaries of the enemy take.

The armistice must be motivated by a preamble to the meeting of the Congress, in the following terms: "Their Majesties, etc., wishing to begin negotiations for a final peace, have resolved to convene their plenipotentiaries for this purpose. a congress, and, meanwhile, to put an end as soon as possible to hostilities between the respective armies, & c. "

Plenipotentiaries must be warned against this preamble.

They will probably present one in the sense of their full powers. The Duke de Vicenza will oppose it, implying that peace is an indeterminate problem that can not be decided by anyone,

1) These instructions, although signed by the Duke of Bassano, were dictated by the Emperor.[329]

and that needs to be negotiated. He will then propose another preamble in these terms:

"Their Majesties, & c., Wishing to advise by means of putting an end to the war unfortunately unleashed between them, have agreed for this purpose to a suspension of arms, & c."

By this wording, the question of the congress is evaded.

It is important that before beginning the discussion of any condition the preamble be stopped, so that, if one broke on the terms of the armistice, one knows whether the plenipotentiaries were prepared on the issue of the preamble, as well that it can be foreseen by the full powers given to them by General Barclay de Tolly.

The Duke of Vicenza may say that Austria has consented to the congress.

This exhausted matter, we will come to the conditions of the armistice.

1. We shall take as a limit the left bank, the Oder, which we have already, and the line of demarcation which we had in Silesia during the last campaign, which we have passed, and upon which we shall not hesitate to return.

2. As for Danzig, Modlin, and Zamosc, none of these places will be besieged; no work will be done within range of the cannon, and the hostile armies will supply the garrisons with provisions for their consumption every five days.

3. A courier may leave every eight days to bring news to the garrisons, and to bring them back.

4. As to the duration of the armistice, an essential condition is that it be extended to the whole time of the negotiations.

If the enemy plenipotentiaries do not consent, the duration of the armistice may be limited to three months, that is, until the 1st of September.

Finally, after having strongly insisted, we may consent to reduce the armistice to two months, on the condition that we warn you fifteen days in advance; that is to say, if, at the expiration of the armistice, it is not extended, it will be fifteen days before the resumption of hostilities. An armistice which could be broken at a fortnight's bonus would be to the advantage of the enemy, to whom a fortnight would be sufficient to put his army back online; while an armistice, which would be less than two and a half months, would be of no use to the Emperor, who would not have time to restore his cavalry.

The Minister of External Relations,

Duke DE BASSANO.[330]

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NOTE ON THE DEMARCATION OF THE ARMISTICE LINE.

In July 1807, the line of neutrality started from Rawicz, passed near Leubel, Wersingawa, Seifersdorf, joined the Oder near Pogarell, left it near Maltsch, followed the border of Breslau as far as Zobten, from there that of Brieg until County Glatz, that of Glatz to the Bohemian border.

I renounce the right bank of the Oder, except for a league around Glogau, around Küstrin, around Stettin,

I renounce, if necessary, but after having disputed a long time, at the duchy of Schweidnitz; then the line would pass near Striegau, Graeben, Kupferberg, and connect with the Bohemian frontier.

After the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20053. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN LIEGNITZ.

Liegnitz, May 29, 1813, two o'clock in the afternoon,

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Ragusa to go, with the 6th corps and cavalry of General Latour-Maubourg, from Jauer, in advance of Eisendorf, on the road to Neurnarkt. Let him know that the Prince of Moskva is going to Neumarkt with the 5th and 7th corps, and that the headquarters will probably be there tonight with the Guard; that the 3rd corps remains in front of Liegnitz; that the Duke of Taranto and the 4th corps will remain at Jauer.

Order the Duke of Taranto and the 4th Corps to go to Jauer. The Duke of Taranto will push an avant-garde on Striegau, choosing a good position. You will also tell him the situation of the army, and that I walk on Breslau.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20054. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ROSNIG.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813.

Cousin, give orders that the bread sent to us from Dresden be biscuity, otherwise it would be moldy.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[331]

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20055. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN ROSNIG.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813.

Cousin, write to Westphalia to ask that the King send to Dresden the rest of his contingent.

Order that General Dombrowski, with his infantry, cavalry, and artillery, should march to Dresden via Leipzig, where General Durosnel will employ him, if necessary, to support the Duke of Padua; but, with that in mind, this division will have no delay in its march on Dresden. I do not approve of the disposition the Duke de Valmy took to make this column detachment by detachment. Order General Dombrowski to unite all his troops and march en masse; 4 to 5,000 men can walk in one column. I do not approve of the deposit of this division being placed at Trier; you have to put it in Düsseldorf, where it will be closer and better.

I had given orders, and I do not know who could have taken it upon him to dispose of it otherwise, that the Augsburg road should be directed to Wurzburg, and from Wurzburg to Fulde, reiterate this order in the most positive manner; I only want to have one road for the army. I allow, however, that a corps of more than 3,000 men might come from Augsburg to Baireuth; but this direction would not be considered as an army road, and only as a movement of a particular column. The army route, for Italy, must pass through Augsburg, Würzburg and Fulde. It is necessary to write this not only to the military commanders and the governors, but also to my various plenipotentiary ministers, who, at the request of the governments, allow themselves to change the course of the army, which is major disadvantage. It is not for them to meddle about whether a road is shorter and more convenient. The direction of the military roads is one of the most important operations. Make an inquiry to find out who has changed this road.

It would be necessary to have at Augsburg an adjutant commander to direct everything that comes from Italy. The viceroy could send it from Italy. The columns of more than 3,000 men who will pass through Baireuth will march militarily. Their commanders will be required to inquire with the Bavarian, Saxon and French authorities about anything that may happen on their right and on their left, in order to, at the slightest uncertainty or doubt, always support the[332]

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left. Finally it is necessary to reiterate the orders on the road so that the squadrons of the 19th of chasseurs, the Italian squadrons and the squadrons of the 13th and 14th of hussars, which come from Italy, do not walk in isolation. I have no confidence in these troops. That they group in Augsburg and meet in a column, since a squadron of 200 men of these troops could be mistreated by 100 followers. Have a survey of your movement states, and let me know where we could stop these squadrons to meet in a column.

Let General Durosnel know that, by moving away from Dresden, convoys must be stronger; that it is absurd to count in the escort the soldiers of the train and the crews and the employees; Count only bayonets and sabers; that I do not think an escort should be less than a thousand men?

Order General Saint-Germain, who is at Bautzen, to meet at the column of the Guard, or any other if it had passed. General Durosnel may order him to command a convoy, but in such a manner that the cavalry should be part of a convoy in which there would be at least 3,000 men.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20056. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DUROSNEL. GOVERNOR OF DRESDEN.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813.

Give assurance to the ministers of the King of Saxony that all the munitions of war supplied by Saxony to the army will be replaced by France, either powder or bullets; and so this should only be considered as a loan.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20057. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE. MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARIE, IN NEUDORF.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813, noon.

Monsieur le Duke Vicence, it seems to me in your letter that these gentlemen would pretend that I evacuated all Upper Silesia, and even my communications with Glogau; There is so much absurdity in saying that it is not conceivable. However, I suppose you[333]

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you are poorly explained; for you say in your letter that "the armies would resume their positions if peace were not made," which supposes that on their side they would have retreated too.

You may give the plenipotentiaries the news that General Bülow was beaten on the 28th, in advance of Hoyerswerda, that the day before a body of 100 Cossacks and twelve officers had been surprised, and that this army was pursued vigorously; that, as for Hamburg, we had to enter there on the 24th; that the Danes make common cause with us, and that 18,000 men of their troops have united with the Prince of Eckmühl.

I come back to what you write to me: the principle of any arms suspension negotiation is that everyone stays in the position they are in; the lines of demarcation are then the application of this principle. Moreover, if they hold on to conditions as absurd as those which you explain in your letter, there is no need to arrange, and it is useless to continue the conferences further. In this case, come back here as soon as possible.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20058. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Rosuig, May 30, 1813.

Cousin, I am sorry that you did not advise the Empress to pardon, on the morning of the 23rd, the man condemned to death. You have been too much of a magistrate in this affair. It would not have been necessary for this grace to come from the right of the individual, but from the Empress's own movement, because of the day. Take the first opportunity to have him do one or two acts of his own movement; which is without inconvenience for justice, and which would have a good effect on public opinion.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

20059. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Rosuig, May 30, 1813.

It is necessary to write to the Prince of Essling so that it does not constitute me in useless expenses; that I judged his presence necessary in Toulon for[334]

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to give energy to the civil and military authorities, to put together the land troops and the soldiers of the navy who must contribute to the defense of Toulon, and to cover all the small rivalries by a great authority, but that I am very far from having any kind of fear for Toulon, that I must not, therefore, constitute expenses which would be onerous in the present situation of the finances of war; that in a port like Toulon, if imperious circumstances presented themselves, one would find in the stores of the navy, in the supply of the squadron, and in all that Providence would furnish, all the resources which one would need.

I would like you to have articles put in the newspapers of these provinces, which suggest that a great camp is being formed at Toulon, and that you are using the name of the Prince of Essling to spread the noise that is being organized on this side. a great army ready to go either to Sicily or to Italy; it is still one of the objects for which the Prince of Essling was placed there.

Concur with the Minister of the Navy to assist in all that is necessary to make the flight of the Toulon squadron come out with landing troops. The newspapers of France, Italy, and Germany must repeat various articles and strikes for this purpose.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20060. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813,

My Son, I receive your letter of the 19th. I have hardly seen the bankruptcies that took place in Venice. I especially regret the house Bignami. If it were not for her fault and she was a victim of misfortune, you would come to her rescue, if there is still time. This house seemed to me distinguished by the attachment she showed me.

My intention is that you provide for the organization of my troops in Italy, and that you activate as much as possible the march and the formation of the artillery, the administrations and the arrival of the effects of equipment and clothing. You will make all your arrangements for the French troops, in the form of agendas, and send them a copy to the Minister of War, and to the Minister of the Administration of War when it concerns him.

I have nothing to add to the instructions I gave you. Gradually increase the armament of Palmanova and his[335]

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seige supply, especially in objects that do not perish, such as rice, flour, etc. As for the cattle, we will be in time to meet them when the need is near. I can not recommend to you my place of Malghera, near Venice; have them work with the greatest activity, and that the engineers and artillery are in order. With the crews and the large number of naval officers who are in Venice, and the little fort of Malghera being in state, Venice must be considered as the boulevard of my states in Italy.

I am extremely displeased with General Peyri: Send me General Fontanelli or General Palombini as soon as possible.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. 1. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20061. - TO FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, IN STUTTGART.

Rosnig, May 30, 1813.

Brother, I have received Your Majesty's letter of May 24th. I thank him for the information he gives me on the situation of affairs in Vienna, I beg him to have his eyes open, and to learn exactly what will come to his knowledge. Your Majesty has already foreseen that I had sent the Viceroy to Italy partly for this purpose. I made known to your Majesty long ago that there would always be some French battalions at his disposal, at Mayence and Strasburg, to suppress the troubles which might arise in Vorarlberg. As soon as the case arrives, it is enough for your majesty to make it known either to the minister of war or to the duke of Valmy. Nevertheless, my relations with Vienna still seem far from this last extremity.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

20062. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKET.

Neumarkt, May 31, 1813, ten o'clock in the morning.

Cousin, give orders to the Prince of the Moskova to go today to Breslau with the 5th corps; he will leave the 7th corps at Lissa to keep the communication and to drive away fewer forces from the center of the army. I want the troops to remain encamped at the gates of Breslau, to enter the city only what is necessary to establish the police there, to make food for them.[336]

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to send to the army, and to be always ready to go where circumstances would require it.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. We will first restore the bridges, if they were burned, to be able to maneuver on both shores.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20063. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Neumarkt. May 31, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, the Swedish troops having entered Hamburg, it is fitting for you to propose to me at once a declaration of war against Sweden.

The report and the supporting documents will be sent to the Senate. Mr. Otto will read it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20064. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Neumarkt, May 31, 1813.

The question proposed to you by General César Berthier, with regard to the conduct he will have to hold towards Queen Caroline of Sicily, is probably idle. However, you must answer him that, if the case should happen, he must treat it with the honors due to his rank and as much consideration as possible; for two reasons, as grandmother of the Empress, and especially as an unfortunate queen, persecuted by the English.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20065. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT,

Neumarkt, May 31, 1813, half past eleven in the evening.

Cousin, write to the Duke de Raguse at once that you have received his letter of today, at half-past four in the evening, where there are several ciphered phrases; that the 3rd corps is at Diezdorf, and General Latour-Maubourg at Moys; that from Diezdorf to Moys there are only 3,300 fathoms; that you do not conceive how he is in the air having three divisions and a cavalry corps, and[337]

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3,000 toises from the army. Tell him that, in this kind of war, it is necessary to avoid being too tight, and that the Russians having a great deal of cavalry, their situation is quite different; that at Diezdorf there is a road going on Schweidnitz, whence it is only six small leagues; that he will not have paid attention to the road you mentioned yesterday, which from Striegau goes to the Oder. This road is broad and good, and made recently; I had it recognized to the point where it joined the Oder; it is especially used to drive coals to this river.

Tell him that he does not enter into details which show whether he has infantry before him; that all the reconnoitres made near his camp have nothing but cavalry far away; that they also say that they have heard a cannonade today between the Zobtenberg and Schweidnitz or Striegau, and that he makes known if he has heard nothing of it. Tell him to let you know what is in front of him tomorrow at break of day, and tell him that we must avoid the inconvenience of taking a too tight position, which prevents the weapons, from being deployed. and gives a great advantage to the enemy cavalry.

Tell him that everything in Neumarkt and the village of Diezdorf would come quickly to his aid; to try to communicate with the Duke of Taranto and to give you his news; that with the cavalry of General Latour-Maubourg, by having it supported by some battalions and artillery, he could have pushed his reconnaissance very far today and positively know what he has before him; it seems he does not do anything about it, since he has some concerns about it; that some faithful people say that the enemy is moving from Schweidnitz on Zobten. That would be the dust he would have seen on a line six leagues from him. If this movement is verified, it is because the enemy would like to approach Breslau by his right. Tell him to urge strong acknowledgments tomorrow and to inform you of the results; that the Duke of Taranto, he sent yesterday, 30, that he should march on Striegau on the 31st; that this cannonade heard could be his movement on Striegau. Tell him that if the Duke of Tarentum had come to Striegau, it would be useful for him to go forward on the road to Schweidnitz on the Striegauerwasser, on the side of, for example, Neuhof or Kostenbluth, taking there a good position.

Let him know that we must have entered Breslau today.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[338]

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20066. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE. MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARIE, AT ECKERSDORF.

Neumarkt. June 1, 1813, ten o'clock in the morning,

The Duke of Vicenza, I receive your letter of three o'clock in the morning. The assertions which the plenipotentiaries hold are ridiculous, and I find it difficult to understand how they can indulge in such remarks. I have ten reports on the Duke of Reggio's affair; and this answer to everything is that he is three days away from the field of battle. The report they besiege Wittenberg is absurd; I have news of this place of the 31st. The news that there were 2,000 men in Magdeburg is pleasant; He has in this place 15,000 men. As for telling them that we are in a false position, I am not talking about the position where they are, it is extraordinary that they want to know mine and talk about it.

Nevertheless the principles which you announce to me for the armistice do not appear to me to depart from the instructions which I had given you, since all the states of Saxony would be delivered. In the states of the King of Saxony, I understand those of Dessau, which are small fiefs enclaved, they pass the league so that I can not occupy any city, because, the river passing in the middle of Liegnitz, this same line would share Loewenberg and Goldberg; it would be proper, therefore, for the line to pass one league from each of these cities; but it is an object of little importance. In speaking of the thalweg of the Elbe, it would be necessary to grant a league on the right bank around Magdeburg. As for Wittenberg, no stipulation of this nature is necessary, since Wittenberg is enclosed in Saxony more than a league from the frontiers.

The only difficulty is Hamburg; all leads me to think that when the news arrives at Hamburg we will be masters of the place, or at least that we will encircle it, since the Prince d'Eckmühl held, on the 25th, a council with the Danish officers and M the Count of Kaas, Minister of the Interior, whom the King of Denmark sends to me; that, moreover, the batteries are shooting red-hot on the town, and that the Danes are offering me 15,000 men. But this point is so far, that one could extricate himself by not making an armistice on this point. There is a month's walk by then; so it is obvious that reinforcements can not be directed from this side. So we could not talk about it, and end the armistice at Boitzenburg, on the border of the 32nd Division, since it would be contrary to the Constitution that I do any act as Emperor[339]

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which left the enemy on French territory. These gentlemen must understand that the bias that I propose is in quite accommodating sentiments. It will happen on this side what we want; that part is too far to have any influence, and the mode proposed will have so much more advantages than it will take twenty articles on Hamburg, since there would be to foresee the case where the French and the Danes would surround the city, where they would enter, etc.

As for my convoys, you know that I have not yet lost a single one, and that the army road from Mainz has not yet been intercepted, since all march under escorts of 1, 7,000 to 2,000 men. It is true that artillery cars having taken the road of Baireuth were intercepted by partisans: the material was taken again. But these discussions are completely futile.

I had the powers erected by the Prince of Neuchatel; you can exchange them today so that you have time to discuss. You will receive with the powers of the letters of the Prince of Neuchâtel which authorize you to suspend all the movements forward that would make the different corps of army; you will therefore dispatch a French officer and a Russian officer by the shortest way to Breslau, to stop the column where it will be, and, if one fought, to suspend the hostilities; you will do the same for Janer and the Duke of Baguse. You will notice that in your powers it is said: the status quo, each one having to keep what he has at this moment.

As soon as you have taken all the measures in concert with the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries to put an end to hostilities, it will be convenient for you to choose a house halfway between the outposts, where there will be French and Russian garrisons, and the pitch at a quarter of a league around is declared neutral. This little circumstance having no importance, and which can easily be done, the company of cavalry sent by General Latour-Maubourg and a company of voltigeurs will be sufficient.

Here is what is happening on the side of Breslau. Yesterday, the prince of the Moskva arrived at a league from that city, at seven o'clock in the evening, on the little river of Lohe, and found there a corps of 10 to 12,000 men with whom he fired a few shots and of cannon. He will probably have attacked it this morning at four o'clock, unless that corps has withdrawn. It is useless to speak of this circumstance, but only you will first send the order in the direction of Breslau, so that, if one oiled one, one suspends the dispute.[340]

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The advantage that General Saint-Priest would have gained is undoubtedly the skirmish he had yesterday with the Wurtembergers, where everyone, however, kept his posts. The Duke of Taranto, having been instructed not to advance and to maintain his position, did not wish to engage himself further. All is good for these gentlemen; it seems that they have a singularly turned mind.

You feel that you can not get rid of the base that everyone keeps what he has: as soon as the suspension of arms for thirty-six hours will be stopped, that the orders will be sent on Breslau and Jauer, you will make known to the plenipotentiaries that the negotiation of the armistice must take place on this basis, and you will admit to them this basis. Once this principle is accepted, you will divide the armistice into three parts:

1. The army that is here, for which I ask to keep all that I have, has taken a line that goes through all the positions that I will occupy at the time of the suspension of arms, that is to say to say the line indicated by your full powers;

2. The year of General Bülow and the Duke of Reggio: they will draw a line according to the position where they will be at the moment when the notification of the signature of the armistice will arrive; we can not understand them in the first suspension of arms because they are too far away;

3. Finally, the parties on the right bank of the Elbe and the Oder, for I have strong parties, which are pursuing on the right bank of the Oder a battalion which had taken refuge on Posen; it will be convenient for some to repass the Elbe and the others the Oder. I am not talking about partisans and patrols, because they would be exposed, but bodies that would have their communications: everyone could keep the position he will be at the time of the signing of the armistice.

As for the 32nd Military Division, it is a point of delicacy and honor in which the Emperor Alexander must enter more than anyone else. You will represent to them that, if they truly want peace, no peace can be feasible at the expense of the constitutional territory of the Empire. It is in vain that they could say that the Emperor Alexander did not recognize the Hamburg meeting. I had not recognized the meeting of Lithuania, and yet and yet the Emperor Alexander would not have liked to hear at the cession of some points of this territory when I occupied it. Why would he believe me here less delicacy and energy? By giving us Hamburg, etc., by the armistice, these unfortunate cities would be wrested from the anxieties to which they are prey, and it would even be a powerful way[341]

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honorable to get away, if however these cities are not already occupied by us.

I send you the last packet I receive from Prince Eckmühl; you will see the state of things on that side. A battery of mortars was established in the islands. The Prince of Eckmühl had three infantry divisions, and on the 25th a council was held at the prince's house, where they found M. de Kaas, Minister of the Interior, who comes to me as Envoy Extraordinary, and the Danish officers. The Danish court's orders were already in place for the whole Danish army which was in Holstein to march with the French army. It is therefore probable that Hamburg is taken or besieged. I can not, therefore, stipulate for the left bank of the Elbe, because I am master of Hamburg; Secondly, because it would be dishonorable and contrary to the principles of our constitutions to stipulate any armistice which louses the enemy in our territory while we are on foreign territory. But a simple bias is to end the armistice on the edge of the 32nd division, between Lüneburg and Hoitzenburg, and let things go on the Elbe hash. As there is a month's march by then for either army, we can not be afraid of making detachments on this side; it is really another theater.

As for the duration of the armistice, you will remark that it is difficult in a month to negotiate peace; that two months seem necessary, especially since the signing of the armistice it will happen at least five to six days before the appointment of plenipotentiaries. You must therefore propose to put two months. If they do not wish to do so, it would be necessary to allow six days as they propose to denounce the armistice, and fifteen days to begin hostilities. You will make known that the fifteen days will allow the troops to be dispersed, and thus to be less dependent on the country, since there will always be time to reunite them. It will be necessary to stipulate that the fifteen days must count from the moment when the notification will have been made to the headquarters of the general commanding the army, and where it will have drawn received.

I would like you to write the armistice in three parts:

1st. The army here where we are, whose line will be determined by the points occupied by the outposts at the time of the exchange of the full powers ;

2nd. The army covering Berlin, where the armistice will be determined by the line occupied by the two armies at the time of the signing of the armistice;[342]

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3rd. The left bank of the Elbe, which will be evacuated at the same time as the right bank of the Oder;

4th. Finally the French territory or the 32nd division, where we will let things continue as they are.

It will be convenient that, after having explained it well, you put it in writing, so that the plenipotentiaries may send it to their headquarters and deliberate on it. The justice of these propositions is too evident for the Emperor Alexander not to consent. If we do not grant the slight advantage of sending letters every ten days to the garrisons, renounce it. Put only that no work shall be done within reach of the cannon, and that there shall be a French commissioner near the blockade army for the supply of the garrison.

I do not need to tell you that if they want to stipulate for the second part of the armistice, I adopt the bases you propose, that is to say the evacuation of Saxony, including that of the country of Dessau; but this must be the result. The way to get there should be to make it a separate article.

You will say a word of Norway; you will make known that the hereditary prince of Denmark has gone to this country, and will ask you whether the Emperor Alexander would not judge of his generosity, for a nation which has always been attached to him, that the armistice lent to Norway; but this accidental question is quite out of line.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. I will write to you in an hour.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20067. - GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, PLENIOPTENARY MINISTER AT ECKERSDORF.

Neumarkt, June 1st, 1813, three o'clock in the afternoon,

Monsieur le Duke de Vicence, I have no letters from you since the one of three o'clock after midnight. I have sent you the same officer to announce the full powers of the Prince of Neuchatel. The Prince of Neuchâtel sent you his full powers by one of his officers, and shortly afterwards I sent you my orderly officer Desaix, with a long letter from me. As I am going on horseback to take the road to Eisendorf, I hope to hear from you. I want to be educated right-[343]

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away, as soon as you have exchanged your full powers and that both sides have been ordered to cease hostilities.

You feel the importance of being informed of this, because if there were no suspension of hostilities, there would be military arrangements for the day tomorrow. I suppose also, that if you heard the cannon on Jauer's side, you would inform me of it.

Now that we are in possession of Breslau, if we could admit Breslau in compensation for Hamburg, it seems to me that this would end all disputes and everything would be arranged. Care should be taken when the line of demarcation passed over the convent of Liegnitz, to form a military position, and passed a league from the two small towns of Goldberg and Loewenberg. It seems to me that I would evacuate a very large country space from Breslau to a league from Liegnitz for compensation of Hamburg, which perhaps at that very moment is in my possession. According to the information I have received, it seems that it is the Swedes who must go to Hamburg.

I always recommend that you prepare some direct opening. I desire peace, I desire it solid, but it must be negotiated and honorable. It is especially from this point of view that I attach importance to an armistice. I have nothing to repeat on the length of the armistice: I would like it for two months, in order to have a reasonable time to discuss and sign the peace.

NAPOLEON,

P. S. I have just received the deputies of Breslau; the bourgmestre was at their head. It appears that the principal authorities remained in the city; they obtained permission from the king. It would be unfortunate to lose by the armistice this city, unless it were to finish the affairs of Hamburg.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20068 - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Neumarkt, June 1st, 1813.

At this moment a six-week arms suspension is being negotiated; I will let you know tomorrow if he has succeeded; I unlocked Glogau; I am in Breslau.

Bubna arrived at Liegnitz; he has a conference with the Duke of Bassano. The house of Austria seems very demanding; we must expect war with her, hold back the conscripts who were to come here.[344]

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Join the leaders of the six battalions in Augsburg in Italy. Take back the artillery, the horses, the horsemen; remember everything in Italy. Get out of Milan; see yourself your troops and organize yourself. Supply Palmanova, Osoppo, Ragusa, Zara, and put yourself in condition. Hold the 19th of chasseurs. Let the 13th and 14th hussars, because they are Italians it is good to disorient. Act as if you were to be attacked at the end of June by Austria. Secretly write to the King of Naples in this sense. As soon as you have your army in Verona, you will be able to wear it on Laybach. How many men do you think you have at the end of June? Will you have at that time a hundred and twenty pieces of artillery hitched?

This letter contains everything. Act accordingly. Do not waste a moment.

NAPOLEON.

According to the comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20069. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENSE, PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER, IN PLEISCHWITZ.

Neumarkt, June 2, 1813.

The Duke of Vicenza, the Prince of Neuchatel has been instructed to inform you of my intentions. I hope you will finally end this night. Make the neutral country understand not only what we occupy, but also something of what the Russian armies occupy. It must be stipulated that commissioners will be appointed on both sides to ensure the execution of the stipulations. Be careful to understand my principles and to be very scrupulous in the writing of what is relative to Hamburg. This is intended to convey the importance I attach to what is constitutionally united to the Empire.

Arrange also for the notification of the armistice in the places of Danzig, Modlin, Zamosc, Stettin and Küstrin to be sent by a French officer and a Russian officer; that the official may enter the place, give news of it, receive it, which will make me very aware of the situation of the place, and see to the execution of the stipulations. Make known that the food must be given by the enemy, except the account of payment that will be made, by liquidation, to the French headquarters. Do not stipulate that no work will be done in the squares; that would be absurd and would oblige us to receive a Russian inspector in our places, which is impossible.[345]

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It is very simple for a place to do what it can to put itself in a stall; It is also very simple that, during the armistice, no work is done under the cannon of places. It would be better not to speak of this circumstance of doing work, if it were to follow that it would not be done in places.

Remember that he is appointed a commission to watch over the execution of the armistice. This commission could be held there Breslau; on both sides would be sent any complaints that might be made about the non-execution of the agreed articles and any disputes that may have arisen.

Above all, take care of the line of demarcation around Liegnitz.

NAPOLEON

P. S. I have asked you to rectify the line by keeping Jauer, and so as to give us Hirschberg, which is a good city; make Striegau understood in the neutral country. Make sure that by midnight I know what to expect. The suspension of arms at this moment is all in favor of the enemy.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20070. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Neumarkt, June 2, 1813.

You will see, through the news of the *Monitor*, that you are negotiating for an armistice. It would be possible that it was signed today or tomorrow. This armistice stops the course of my victories. I decided for two reasons: my cavalry defect, which prevents me from striking hard, and the hostile position of Austria. This court, in the most amiable and tenderest colors, I would say even the most sentimental ones, wants nothing less than to force me, by the fear of its army assembled at Prague, to restore to it Dalmatia and Istria, and even beyond Isonzo. He wants moreover the left bank of the Inn and the country of Salzburg, and finally half of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, giving the other half, to the Prussia and to the Russia. It hopes to reach these advantages by the mere presence of a hundred thousand men and without real hostilities.

The armistice will be, I think, for the months of June and July, and I hope that in the first days of July the Viceroy will be able to camp at Laybach with 60,000 men and a hundred pieces of artillery, and[346]

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that the five divisions of the observation corps of Mainz, with the two divisions of the young Guard, which makes seven divisions, will be able to reach the Regnitz and the camp of Pirna, and that Austria will see that I have 150,000 men to oppose him.

I intend to take my headquarters first to Glogau, and then I will go to Dresden, to be closer to France and Italy, and to be able, before throwing away the glove, to gather my troops on Regnitz, Pirna camp and Laybach camp.

Communicate the substance of this letter to the Minister of War Administration, and redouble your efforts to have the artillery, cavalry, and infantry march in the various directions I have ordered. If I can, I'll wait until September to strike big shots. I want to be in a position to crush my enemies, although it is possible that when she sees me in a position to do so, Austria will use her pathetic and sentimental style to recognize the chimera and ridicule of his claims. I wanted to write you this letter so that you would know my thoughts once and for all, and that you would agree with the minister of the administration of the war to organize my army of Italy and that of Mainz. If you have to talk to me about these matters in your correspondence, it must be in numbers.

Have General Caffarelli report to you all that is ready to leave for the Guard; and everything goes as it is dressed, cavalry, infantry and artillery: artillery especially, because it is the artillery of my Guard which decides most battles, because, always having it at hand, I can carry it wherever it is necessary.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20071. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN

Neumarkt, June 2, 1813.

Yesterday I sent you an extraordinary letter. I send you a second today, and I will send you a third as soon as the armistice is signed.

I do not have to conceal you that which brings me to stop the course of my victories, are the armaments of Austria and the desire to gain time for your army to be camped in Laybach, and to have two one camped on the Regnitz and the other at the Pirna camp. The insolence of Austria has no end: with a honeyed style, I would even say sentimental, he would like[347]

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to take me away Dalmatia, Istria and perhaps even more than until Isonzo; he would like to dismember the frontier of Bavaria, to take the left bank of the Inn, to recover the part of Galicia which he ceded by the peace of Vienna. They are fools, and they are far from their account. It is impossible to be more treacherous than that of the court. If we give him what he is asking now, he would then want Italy and Germany. Certainly he will have nothing of me.

After the signing of the armistice, I will take my headquarters to Glogau; Immediately afterwards, I will come closer to Dresden to be more within reach of my States of Italy and France. It will then be convenient to establish a courier by Verona, from Milan to Dresden, so that you may communicate with me and receive my orders with the greatest promptitude. I hope that the armistice will be held until the 1st of August, and I also hope that, in the first days of July, you may be encamped at Laybach with 50,000 men and a hundred pieces of artillery. This is necessary to influence the negotiations, if they have to go through, which I doubt; but this will be possible only by means of the position of your army threatening to march on Vienna, and the position of the Army of Mayence on the Regnitz and the camp of Pirna, which I intend to reconnoiter myself. When Austria thus sees three armies ready to oppose him, he will begin to open her eyes to the madness and ridicule of his pretensions.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20072. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER, IN PLEISCHWITZ.

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813, half-past six in the morning.

The Duke of Vicenza, the Major General has informed you of my intentions; I hope, at nine or ten o'clock, to know what to do with it. It must not be forgotten that this armistice, as I propose in my ultimatum, is not honorable for me. Why, indeed, abandon for a six-week armistice a country of Breslau importance? It's me who gives up everything, the enemy nothing. The Duke of Reggio covers Saxony; the enemy has only patrols; would it occupy some villages of Saxony, can it be compared with the most beautiful countries in the world and the largest city of this region? Would the enemy humiliate me by driving me out of an armistice of a city I entered[348]

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the result of the battle? When I consent to abandon it, and neutralize this city, I grant all that honor can bestow, and that which is contrary to the status quo.

As to what the plenipotentiaries say the enemy has on the left bank of the Elbe, the Duke of Padua is at Leipzig with 30,000 men.

It would be necessary for the enemy to be absurd to hide on the other side of the Elbe anything but partisans and free corps.

Tell them then, in breaking up, that it was in the sole desire of peace that I consented to such an unfavorable armistice, and by sheer cajolery I consented to abandon the capital of Silesia; tell them that before eight days I will be in Berlin; that they will not be happier in the battle which will take place than in the two preceding ones, and that finally they will have shown, instead of pacific dispositions, that they only wanted to amuse me and to gain a few days, since no interest whatever interest of vanity could bring them to ask Breslau. In fact, if peace is not made, and the armistice breaks, the allied armies are half a march from Breslau, and the French army two steps; it is clear from this that, militarily speaking, Breslau belongs to them.

As for the delay of the armistice, the proposed term is an insult. Would it not be said that I am in a besieged place, and how do you suffer such terms to be used against you? I want an armistice, but I want it to be a statesman and sovereign; I wanted the armistice before the battle of Worschen as I want it after. But do we want to put an end to it? This term must give time to start and finish the negotiation. Today is June 3rd, the armistice will not be ratified until the 5th; before the 10th we will not agree on how to negotiate; from June 10 to July 20 there are only forty days to negotiate and conclude. We used eighteen days at Tilsit; the sovereigns were in presence; they saw each other three times a day; here the sovereigns are distant, and the negotiation is much more complicated. I want to negotiate peace and not receive it as a capitulation. The enemies are mistaken if they hope it will be different than in the past. Experience has shown them that they have been constantly wrong. Warn them that they will be defeated at the next battle; that I will remain master of Breslau, where I[349]

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give, and that I understand very well that it is I who gives everything; that in the end I have been able to imitate what honor allowed me to do.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20073. - To M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN LIEGNITZ.

Neumarket, June 3, 1813,

We are in disagreement for the armistice. The Russians want to be in Breslau, and I want Breslau to be neutral. I would like the armistice to last until the 20th of July, they would like it to expire on the 5th; the difference is reduced there. Sign are we? it is a problem.

Share this negotiation with Mr. de Bubna. Let him know the uncertainty and the difference where we are: after I have agreed to evacuate Breslau for the sake of peace, the Russians want to occupy it, and that, as we do at the French headquarters, an affair of pride and honor, it is doubtful whether we should grant it; that in any case it is proper for you and M. de Bubna to go to Dresden, because if the hostilities were to begin again, I would change my line of operation. I want you to leave tonight; you will march all night with an escort which General Marchand will give you, and you will continue, likewise escorted, to Dresden. This is your place; it is there that you will treat with M. de Bubna, it is there that you will be useful for me as a correspondence center, and it is there that you must stop all the ministers and diplomatic agents who would like to go to me. If the armistice is concluded, I will go to Dresden myself, to be nearer, leaving the army in the cantonments. So I think you will leave today at six o'clock for Bunzlau.

Have an air of confidence by saying all this to M. de Buhna. He will understand very well what is the change of line of operation that I propose. I want to get closer to Breslau, take this city for operation base, and take my line of communication by the right bank on Glogau, where I have a lot of ammunition. You will ask Bunzlau for half the battalion to escort you, and so on to Dresden.

You will take Mr. Bubna with you. Warn of this the general[350]

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Marchand, who will receive orders at daybreak tomorrow, and tell him that he is very military.

If you have any news of the Duke of Reggio, who was on the 29th at Hoyerswerda, communicate them to me; I have not received it for several days. The Duke of Bellune marches on Sagan, whence he will maneuver between Berlin and the Oder. I assembled a reserve at Leipzig, under the Duke of Padua, to suppress the races of the enemy partisans, as well as those of the Franks corps in the style of Schill's. The Duke of Bellune leads with him a division of light cavalry, and General Sebastiani joins him with his three other divisions. That's the business situation.

Write to me from all points where you will pass, and arrive as quickly as possible in Dresden.

You will easily understand to M. de Buhna that if the armistice is not signed and the enemy does not evacuate Schweidnitz, by withdrawing on Glatz and Neisse, there will soon be a business and we will march tomorrow.

Arrange so that the courier who will leave tonight from here does not pass you; it will bring you letters that will let you know the final state of things.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20074. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT.

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813.

Cousin, you will write to the Duke of Vicenza that what I told him yesterday is my ultimatum, and that consequently he will break off the negotiation if the armistice is not granted until July 20, with six days for the denounce, so that hostilities can not begin again before the 26th of July; it will also break it if the line of neutrality does not pass beyond the city of Breslau, this city remaining neutral, that is to say that it is not occupied by any headquarters or French troops, nor by any neighborhood general, troops, landwehr or landsturm allied troops. I hope all this will be finished at eight or nine o'clock this morning, and that I will know at ten o'clock what to do with it. The Duke of Vicenza will tell them that, as to the country they claim to yield elsewhere, they yield nothing; it is I who yields everything; but, supposing that the allies occupy two or three villages in Saxony or on the Elbe's side, I do not care that these villages are neutral.[351]

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If the negotiations were broken, it would be necessary for Russian and French officers to leave at the same time, dispatched by the plenipotentiaries, to travel together and in concert at the front of the line in order to make known the rupture of the suspension of arms, and agree on the time of resumption of hostilities so that there can be no misunderstanding or suspicion about it. The Duke of Vicenza will make it felt how important this is, so that mutual trust remains intact for other circumstances.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20075. - IN PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813, two and a half hours after noon.

Cousin, give orders to the Duke of Bellune to leave with his corps d'armee as soon as possible, and to march in a great march on Sagan, whence he will maneuver to meet the Duke of Reggio to fall on the left flank of the General Bülow, who must be opposite the Duke of Reggio, between Hoyerswerda and Luckau. It seems that the Duke of Belluue could come from Sagan on Forste, and then maneuver according to the circumstances. The Duke of Bellune will have with him one of the light divisions of General Sebasliani, so that he has a thousand horses.

Order General Sebastiani to go with the rest of his cavalry tomorrow by Parchwitz on the road from Neumarkt to Schweiduitz, on the side of Eisendorf or Moys. You will order him to give a light horse division of 1,000 horses to the Duke of Bellune.

Report these arrangements to General Durosnel. Write them down to the Duke of Bellune and the Duke of Reggio by two or three letters. Recommend to the Duke of Belluno and the Duke of Reggio, once they are assembled, to attempt to make their way to Berlin. Recommend to the Duke of Bellune to always keep the right of the Duke of Reggio on the side of the Oder.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20076. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813.

My cousin, order General Durosnel to form four[352]

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columns, each of 150 men of infantry and 100 of cavalry, to pursue the enemy partisans who are in Saxony. He will attach to each of these columns Saxon officers to direct it. Funds will be provided to column commanders for secret expenses. Care should be taken not to employ Westphalians, unless it can be assured that they will not desert.

NAPOLEON

From the original, Depot of War.

20077. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813.

My Cousin, the command of the Duke of Castiglione will extend on Bamberg, Buireuth and all the Regnitz. This marshal will have the inspection of Kronach, Forchheim, and the other places of this river. The duchies of Saxe-Coburg and Saxony - Meiningen will be in his command. The main coorps of observation at Mainz will be under his orders.

General Pernety will command his artillery.

The minister of war administration will appoint him an authorizing officer, and the minister of war an engineer commander.

He will arrange with the Bavarian court through my minister, and as soon as he has 6,000 men in Frankfurt he will carry his headquarters to Wurzburg. The King of Bavaria will put under his command the portion of the troops he intends to observe his frontiers on the left bank of the Danube.

All these provisions will remain secret.

You will write to the King of Bavaria. I think it will be necessary that he also form on the Inn, at Passau, a corps of observation, so that he is VII, but that he is not too threatening.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20078. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN NEUMARKT.

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813.

Cousin, let the Duke of Castiglione know that my intention is that we work actively at the fortress of Würzburg, that it is well supplied, and that the gates of the city[353]

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be organized in such a way that the garrison is safe from the light troops.

The Duke of Castiglione must be made aware of the situation of Kronach and the Regnitz forts. All this must be armed and stocked.

That he correspond actively with the Minister of War to get his generals of division and brigade and his commanders of artillery and engineering, to organize his body promptly.

I would like him to be able to carry his headquarters in Würzburg from the 15th to the 20th of June, and to start having around him the head of four divisions, which, according to what the Minister of War tells me, will be quite arrived in Mainz in the course of June.

As I suppose that the King of Bavaria will put under the command of the Duke of Castiglione the division which he intends to keep to his left, it will be in all five divisions, and at least 50,000 men.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20079. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Neumarkt, June 3, 1813,

The battle of Lützen and that of Wurschen cost us 40,000 rifles; I estimate we need at least 30,000; it is necessary to direct 15,000 to Erfurt and 15,000 to Dresden,

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20080. - TO GENERAL ARRIGHI, DUKE OF PADUA, COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF CAVALRY, IN LEIPZIG.

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

The Duke of Padoue, the Major-General has informed you that my intention is to assemble at Leipzig a reserve corps of cavalry, infantry, and artillery. You must have at this moment at Leipzig, 1st), a column of cavalry arrived on the 25th of May, under the command of General Lorge, with a strength of 1,400 men; 2nd), a second column of cavalry under the orders of General Ameil, 1,000 strong; 3rd), detachments of cavalry from Mainz from the 20th to the 28th, which at this moment must have reached Leipzig, strong with 2,000 men; total, 4,400 men of cavalry, with twelve pieces of artillery on horseback. On June 9, a Württemberg brigade of 1,200 cavalry men will arrive in Leipzig, and the[354]

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3rd Württemberg infantry brigade, 3,000 strong, with six pieces of cannon. On the 15th, Dombrowski's division arrived at Leipzig, with 1,800 men of infantry, 1,200 cavalry, and six artillery pieces on horseback. The 3rd battalion of the 3rd regiment of the navy will arrive on June 16th. Leipzig. You will be able to fire from Torgau and Wittenberg two battalions of the 123rd and 124th, which will make a corps of 2,000 men. Finally you will be able to fire from Magdeburg four battalions of the division Teste, with this general who is in this place, and six battalions of the 1st and 4th infantry divisions, which will form a division of ten battalions, and will thus give you a corps of 7,000 horses, 12,000 infantry men, and twelve pieces of artillery. This corps will be augmented every day by the arrival of detachments of the 3rd corps of cavalry; detachments are on the march to reach 9,000 men. You know the generals who make up the composition of this 3rd corps; most of them are in Frankfurt or Mainz; write to those you trust most that they will join you.

You have the superior command of Magdeburg and Wittenberg; you must draw from these places what is necessary for you. I believe you can draw a field artillery battery for General Teste. This general knows that two batteries are destined for his division, he must know where they are. As soon as you have sufficient strength, you will go to Dessau to burn the bridge which is said to have been built by the enemy, and thus establish communication between Wittenberg and Magdeburg. You will organize three or four columns of infantry and cavalry, if necessary with artillery, to put on the tracks of the enemy partisans, to destroy them and to keep free the whole left bank of the Elbe.

When this goal is reached, you will be able to cross the Elbe, place yourself in front of Wittenberg, and there do what will be necessary to assure your lines of communication with Torgau, Wittenberg and Magdeburg, and to assist the bodies that maneuver on Berlin.

You must correspond, first with General Durosnel, who commands all Saxony; with the governors of Torgau, Wittenberg, and Magdeburg, with that of Erfurt; with the Prince of Eckmühl in Hamburg; with the king of Westphalia; with the Duke of Castiglione at Frankfort; with Baron Saint-Aignan, my minister to the princes of Saxony, at Weimar; with Baron Reinhard, my minister at Cassel; with General Bourcier, Director of Deposits at Hanover; in order to be able to learn everything, and to provide for everything that would happen on the left bank of the Elbe.[355]

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It is you who will direct all the detachments that General Bourcier sends to the army for the 1st and 2nd corps of cavalry. You will bring them together in sufficient strength, and you will send them to Dresden to rejoin these corps, so that no accident happens to them. Finally, take charge of the upper direction of the Leipzig cavalry depot. All that will have to leave this depot to go to the army, you will join it to the detachments sent by General Bourcier, so that they arrive in a safe manner.

You must correspond daily with the Major General, in order to inform him of everything.

You have the authority to hit Leipzig hard.

This city must provide all that is necessary for the army and hospitals.

Weigh on the city of Halle, if it is true that its inhabitants behaved as badly. Give examples of towns and villages, and even the little princes who favor the enemy partisans.

It is my intention that, by these arrangements, you should not keep any detachment of marches, either infantry or cavalry, and that you should put them all, well equipped and well armed, in motion to join the army.

In case of combined movement, the King of Westphalia could provide a column of infantry, cavalry and artillery to assist your operations.

You will have to command your infantry a Württemberg brigadier general, Major General Teste, and a Polish brigadier general of the Dombrowski division, and finally, if necessary, you can employ General Lapoype, making sure that you he remains a good commander at Wittenberg.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke of Padua.

20081. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter by which you announce that you leave at nine o'clock in Liegnitz. It is three o'clock in the morning, and all is still uncertain about the armistice. It might be that these gentlemen would have liked to buy time; but that can not wait.[356]

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Give everywhere the good news that between Breslau and Brieg we seized sixty vessels loaded with munitions of war and of cannon which had been destined for the siege army of Glogau and which have just been directed on this place.

The Danish Plenipotentiary has arrived at Dresden. Hold it back, send me the king's letter. Make a treaty with this plenipotentiary; that this treaty be offensive and defensive; that he will guarantee my states and that I will guarantee those of the king. In this treaty I will put an army of so much at the disposition of the King to defend Holstein, and he will put an army of so many at my disposal for the same object.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

20082. - TO Mr. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF RELATIONS ENTERIORES, IN DRESDEN,

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813, three o'clock in the morning.

The Duke of Bassano, I organized at Leipzig, under the Duke of Padua, a reserve corps of 8 to 10,000 men of cavalry, thirty-one to forty pieces of artillery, and twelve to fifteen thousand infantrymen. ; total, 25 to 30,000 men. You will find all the details at General Durosnel. I have instructed you to correspond with this general, who is in charge of remedying all that happens on the rear, and that you send him all the information that might come to your knowledge.

On the other hand, General Durosnel assembled at Dresden a brigade of flankers of the Guard of four battalions, a division of Voltigeurs de la Garde, commanded by General Delaborde, of fourteen battalions, totaling eighteen battalions of the Guard; an Illyrian battalion, several Westphalian battalions and several Saxon battalions; which makes Dresden, for the defense of the city and the bridgehead, a considerable corps.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duke of Bassano,

20083. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE,
PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER, IN PLEISCHWITZ.

Neumarkt, June 4, 1813. ten o'clock in the morning,

The Duke of Vicenza, this drafting, "the armistice will be two months, provided that the second will be the consequence of the[357]

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Bases of peace which will have been established in the first month," is inadmissible. It is a style of capitulation and not of armistice between two equal armies and which, for the sake of peace, put an end to hostilities. This would imply that one of the two contracting parties would make peace only by force. Now, as the proposition is made by the enemies, it indicates enough that it would be agreeable that it is I who make peace by the fear of their arms. They must be very foolish and have a very wrong idea of things, if they still feed this idea. Nevertheless, it would be no less true that this article, thus drafted, would be dishonorable to me, and peculiar to breaking any negotiation of peace, for the mere idea that the enemies believe to threaten me would lead me to brave them; and, to make them see that I am not asking for an indefinite armistice, always remain at the end of the 20th of July, always on the same reasoning that it takes forty full days to try if we can get along. However, do not exclude two months if they adhere to it. In thinking about it, and when you have developed this idea, they themselves will feel the impropriety and absurdity of their modification. If there is suspension of hostilities for two months, the advantage. It is neither for them nor for me, and perhaps even in deepening this point it would be easy to make them understand that all that tends to make them win the winter is, militarily speaking, to their advantage.

I am really sorry that this negotiation lasts so long.

During these delays, the enemy gains all he can gain; his troops reorganize, and I remain in the air. I am even more angry that you do not feel the consequence of an article like the one you send me. Any negotiation of peace between the two parties would be impossible, if the enemies continued to have the idea that I could be, by desiring peace, influenced by the fear of war. The proposition of this article would be a fatal thing, if I did not consider it unthinking.

If we did not want to deal with peace, we would not be foolish enough to deal with an armistice in the present moment, and above all we would not have prolonged it during these four days, which have been to the advantage of all allies. Try to finish before noon.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.[358]

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20084. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813, four o'clock in the afternoon.

The Duke of Bassano, the armistice (1) was signed today at two o'clock in the afternoon. Send a letter to the Duke of Valmy to have the telegram sent to the Empress by the telegram. Also inform this news in Kassel and Hamburg. Tell the King of Saxony. The duration of the armistice is until August 1st. The king's states are covered by the line we keep.

My intention is to establish my headquarters at Dresden, because I will be nearer to my states. Make it known to the King of Saxony; but I do not want to live in the palace because there is no garden. I would like to be lodged in a country house a quarter of a league from the city. Pilnitz is a bit far; however, I will lodge at Pilnitz if there is sufficient lodging; to the deceased of Pilnitz, it would be necessary to find me another campaign also close to the city.

NAPOLEON

TELEGRAPHIC DEPRESSION TO THE IMPERATOR.

A two-month armistice, during which peace must be negotiated, was concluded between the two armies on June 4 between Schweiduitz and Breslau.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.

20085. - TO MARIE-LOUISE, IMPERATOR-QUEEN AND REGENANT,
In SAINT-CLOUD.

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813.

You will receive herewith a decree which I took to raise a monument on Mount Cenis. You will have this decree put in the Moniteur.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

DECREE.

FIRST ARTICLE. A monument will be erected on Mount Cenis. On the face of this monument which will look at the Paris side will be inscribed the names of all our cantons of the departments below the Alps. On the face that will look at Milan will be inscribed the names of all our cantons of departments beyond the Alps and our kingdom of Italy.

1) See the *Moniteur* of October 5, 1813.[359]

At the most visible place of the monument will be engraved the following inscription:

"The Emperor Napoleon, on the battlefield of Wurschen, ordered the erection of this monument, as a testimony of his gratitude to his people of France and Italy, and to transmit to the remotest posterity the memory from that famous time when, in three months, 1,200,000 men ran to arms to ensure the integrity of the territory of the Empire and its allies. "

ART. 2. Our Ministers of the Interior of France and Italy are responsible for the execution of this decree.

In our imperial camp of Klein - Burschwitz, on the battlefield of Wurschen, May 21, 1813, at four o'clock in the morning.

NAPOLEON.

Excerpt from the *Moniteur* of June 12, 1813.

20086. - TO MARIE-LOUISE, IMERATOR-QUEEN AND REGENT, In SAINT-CIOUD.

Neumarkt, June 4th, 1813.

Madam and dear friend, I beg you to speak to the Archchancellor and the Minister of War to instruct our young and best speakers to make the funeral oration of the Dukes of Istria and Friuli. It would be necessary to have some good works done, and which were finished in two months. You could also say two months to the grand master of the University, who could designate individuals.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Baron Meneual.

20087. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Neumarkt. June 4, 1813.

My intention is to keep Wittenberg and to put that place in the best state of defense. I ordered General Rogniat to make great expense and to collect a large number of workmen. I also ordered big jobs in Glosau.

My intention is for two new places to be built on the Elbe, one at the mouth of the Havel, and the other at the mouth of the Plauen Canal. These must be third-rate places. I charged General Haxo, governor of Magdeburg, to choose the points and to decide on the plans. The director of engineering at Magdeburg[360]

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must be responsible for accounting details. These places will be built on the funds of the army.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy, Depot of War,

20088. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT RAPP, GOVERNOR OF DANZIG,

Neumarkt, June 5th, 1813.

The Major General informs you of the state of affairs. I hope peace will be concluded later this year; but if my wishes were disappointed, I would come and unblock you. Our armies have never been more numerous or more beautiful. You will see in the newspapers all the measures that I have taken that have made 1,200,000 men under arms and 100,000 horses. My relations are very friendly with Denmark, where Baron Alquier is still my minister. I do not need to advise you to be deaf to all insinuations, and, in any event, to hold the important place that I entrusted to you.

Let me know, by the return of the officer, those of the military who have distinguished themselves. The advancement and decorations that you think they will have deserved and that you will ask for them, you can consider them as granted and make them wear the marks up to the competition of ten officer crosses and one hundred knight crosses. Choose men who have rendered important services, and send the list by the return of the officer, so that the Chancellor of the Legion of Honor is informed of these appointments.

You can also fill all vacancies in your frames up to and including the rank of captain. Also send the status of all these promotions.

According the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20089. - ORDER.

Neumarkt, June 5th, 1813.

The Prince of Moskova will have his headquarters at Liegnitz; he will administer the circle of Liegnitz and that of Lüben.

The 7th Corps will be able to march tomorrow to go in a few days to Goerlitz and camp on the heights of the city.

The 3rd corps will begin its movement tomorrow to go on Liegnitz, Parchwitz and Lüben, where will camp the different divisions of this corps.

The Prince of Moskova will be able to leave a division in Neumarkt[361]

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as well as light cavalry, to maintain communication with the 5th corps, which is at Breslau.

The 5th corps will remain in Breslau as much as the convention allows; afterwards, the 5th corps will retreat to Goldberg, where this circle will be at the disposal of General Lauriston, and form two or three camps in front of the small towns of this circle.

The Duke of Taranto will retire to Loewenberg and make two or three camps of his army corps; the circle of Loewenberg will be at his disposal.

The Duke of Ragusa will be able to leave tomorrow to go to Bunzlau, where will be his headquarters; the Bunzlau Circle will be at its disposal for his army corps.

General Bertrand will begin his movement tomorrow to go to Sproltau, where will be his headquarters; the circle of Sprottau will be at his disposal.

General Lauriston will retain the Chastel division.

General Latour-Maubourg will set out for Sagan, where he will station his body in the most favorable places for his cavalry.

General Sebastiani will go to Steinau, he will canton his cavalry along the Oder.

The Duke of Treviso will have the administration of the circle of Glogau and that of Steinau: he will begin his movement tomorrow to go to Parchwitz and Rauden, where he will camp the young Guard as he wishes. Place Glogau will be under his command. The cavalry of General Sebastiani will also be under his command.

Everyone will be warned that the headquarters will be tonight in Liegnitz, where everyone will know where he is. We will make small steps. The troops will be confined first until the generals have chosen camps and have time to build barracks.

The intendant general will appoint as many auditors as there are boroughs, which will be charged with administering under the orders of the marshals, to provide for the provision of all the needs of the army.

The Duke of Bellune will continue his journey for Sagan, he will be given orders for his later movement; he will let know when he gets there.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[362]

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20090. - TO GENERAL COUNT BERTBAND,
COMMANDING THE 4th COARPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, TO SEICHAU.

Liesnitz, June 6, 1813.

I received your letter. It is true that I was not satisfied with the manner in which your troops were placed on the 19th, and that at the first shot you did not know what it was and did not help the Italian division. I have not been more of what you have evacuated the plateau before Jauer, when you had before you only twenty-two enemy battalions, and that the Peyri and Morand divisions were still whole. You have demonstrated, in different circumstances, distinguished talents; but it is only with vigor, decision, and constant will; you must neither fumble nor hesitate. Use the time of the armistice to organize your corps well, and at the outbreak of hostilities, we can count on it. The experience you have already gained, though in a few months, must be of great benefit in a spirit like yours.

Instead of a bad general, you now have at the head of the Italian division an excellent general of division, General Fontanelli.

The king of Wurtemberg sends you his 3rd brigade and reinforcements for the rest of his corps; this division will be very beautiful. The Italian division has new reinforcements en route. Establish severe line discipline, and, in business, do not hesitate to trust your troops.

Believe, however, that my feelings for you are always the same, early on that I think that with a little experience of handling the troops you deserve from me in the infantry, as you deserved in your primitive affine.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20091. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Lieguitz, June 6, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, the Corps of Prince Poniatowski will, it seems, arrive at Zittau about the 10th of June; we are today the 6th, so there is not a moment to lose to provide for the needs of this corps. Baron Bignon must be near you; he must know the use he has made of all that I put at his disposal.[363]

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My intention is to provide on the spot for all the needs of the Polish corps on the funds which are carried in your budget. Baron Bignon must have an idea of his needs in armament, clothing, on sale. I will take this corps in my pay since June 1st. As soon as you have answered me and I have given my orders, it will be necessary for Baron Bignon to go to Zittau.

Send a letter to Prince Poniatowski to send someone to Dresden who knows the needs of his corps. Write to him that as of June 1 his corps is in my pay. Let me know how much is a month's pay, so that on their arrival in Zittau the money needed to pay them a month is there. The pay will be the same as the Polish pay, and I suppose that with 400,000 francs we must be able to pay the balance of this corps for the month of June. Let the King of Saxony know that as from the 1st of June I take the Polish corps in my pay. This corps will probably need clothing and equipment effects; you have to see right away if you can get some in Saxony.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.

20092. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Haynau, June 6, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, from all that has been said to me about the Poles, it seems that these troops are badly dressed. There are eight infantry regiments that make 6,200 men. There are sixteen cavalry regiments of 5,200 men, with 5,000 cavalry horses, a horse artillery company, a pontoon company, 600 foot-soldiers, and 100 men of engineers. This corps is to be dressed: it would be necessary to calculate on 12,000 men; but I am assured that 7,000 clothes will suffice. See the suppliers of the King of Saxony, in order to supply Dresden or Goblitz with the necessary sheets, and to have the clothes made. Write to Prince Poniatowski, so that he may make known to you the arrangements he would have made for the clothing of his corps. It must be pushed with great activity, so that in July 10th, all this corps is dressed and harnessed.

Ask Erfurt about the situation of the Polish regiments there, from the garrison of Spandau; also ask[364]

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the state of the Polish troops who are in Wittenberg. It seems to me that each regiment should be reduced to two battalions, which would only make battalions of 400 men and companies of 60 men. It would be weak, but it could be maneuvered and would employ most of the officers. Attached to the regiment of General Dombrowski, who also has two sweeps, would be ten regiments or twenty battalions. We would recruit a few prisoners and some men who could be found to form 10,000 men, which would make a good division of infantry. In order to employ all the generals whom Prince Poniatowski can have in his corps, these twenty battalions would be formed in two divisions and five brigades, each of four battalions, the 1st division being of three brigades and the second of two. Write to France to know if among the prisoners there are Poles. The 1st division, of three brigades, will be given two batteries of artillery on foot, each of eight pieces, which is sixteen pieces; in the 2nd division, two brigades, an eight-piece artillery battery; to the cavalry two horse-drawn artillery batteries of six pieces each, and finally, for the whole corps, a reserve battery of eight pieces of twelve, which would make forty-four guns in all. I believe that this corps is twenty, so it would be twenty-four pieces to furnish it.

The sixteen regiments of cavalry would be joined to the two regiments of General Dombrowski, and reduced to sixteen; each regiment of four companies and each company of 100 men, which puts the regiment at 400 men. These sixteen regiments will form two divisions, each of two brigades; each brigade of four regiments or 1,600 men, and each division of eight regiments or 3,200 men. A horse artillery battery would be attached to each division.

Recapitulation of the Polish corps: four divisions, two infantry, two cavalry.

Infantry. 1st division: three brigades, six regiments, twelve battalions; 2nd division: two brigades, four regiments, eight battalions.

Cavalry. 1st division: two brigades, eight regiments; 2nd division: two brigades, eight regiments.

Artillery. - Artillery on horseback, two batteries; artillery on foot, three batteries; reserve, a battery.

Total, 8,000 men of infantry, 6,400 men of cavalry, 44 guns.[365]

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One sappers company, with its tool box.

One pontoon company, with its tool box.

I am awaiting, to pronounce definitively, the observations of Prince Poniatowski and the plan of distribution of his generals and officers in the cadres. You will show him that these battalions are very weak, as well as brigades and divisions; but that I suppose he has a large number of generals and senior officers, which makes these cadres necessary to employ them. There is a commissioner of wars by division. A gendarmerie company will be formed of all gendarmes. As for the officers who would remain without this new organization, if there were more than 200, we could form a squadron of honor guards of two or three companies, to dispose of them as and when the frames would increase. As soon as we are in the country, these twenty battalions may be raised to 16,000 men, and then the 3rd battalions of these regiments may be formed, which will still make 8,000 men.

By means of these provisions, the officers of the regiments who were in Spandau and who are in Wittenberg, as well as those of the Vistula Legion, would have been melted into this corps. The pay, the equipment, the clothing, the harness, the purchase of the artillery horses and the return of the cavalry of this corps, all this will be at the expense of even department. You can use Baron Bignon to direct all the details; but take all necessary measures to ensure the dress, the harness and the purchase of the artillery horses, and finally to put this corps completely in stall. I suppose that in a city like Dresden, it will be easy to make two hundred clothes a day.

It will also have to be organized in this corps a company of military crews of 40 wagons, including 6 for the ambulance.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Bassano.

20093. - TO MAIUE-LOLISE. IMPERATOR-QUEEN AND REGENANT. In SAINT-CLOUD.

Haynau, June 7, 1813.

Madam and dear friend, I have received the letter by which you informed me that you have received the Archchancellor in bed: my intention is that under no circumstances and under any pretext.[366]

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you do not receive anyone who is in bed. This is only allowed when the age of thirty years.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Baron Meneval.

20091. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMIPIRE, IN PARIS.

Haynau. June 7, 1813.

Cousin, I do not approve of the Empress going to Notre Dame. These big pumps must be rare, otherwise they become trivial. If the Empress went there for Wurschen's victory, she would have to go for all the other victories. As good as it was to go for the victory of Lützen, unexpected victory and that changed the position of our business, as much this time it would be useless. With a people like ours, you need more than that.

I do not approve either that we did not sing the *Te Deum* because of Pentecost. I wish that in general the *Te Deum* be sung on the Sunday immediately following the reception of the news. The delay has only disadvantages; the war has its chances. It would be ridiculous to sing a *Te Deum* for a victory, when, in the meantime, one would have learned a defeat.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by M. I Duke of Cambaceres.

20095. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Haynau. June 7, 1813.

Cousin, you will receive a decree by which I transmit the duchy of Friuli to the daughter of the grand marshal. I wish you to make known this decree to his widow, and that you regulate all that is relative to the investment of the 100,000 francs a year, as well as the investment of the interests. The duchy being more than 200,000 francs, there will therefore remain 100,000 francs available to the widow.

I suppose that, with this provision, I have nothing to regulate in this respect; if, however, any measure still remains to be taken, I would like you to present the project to me in concert with Count Defermon, for I have at heart the interests of the ward to be well managed and independent of the interests of the mother, so that at her majority she can add 100,000 francs of income[367]

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to the income of the duchy, which will make it one of the richest parties in France.

If there is a guardian or curator to name, I wish you to appoint a councilor of state, such, for example, as Count Molé, who, being still young, could attend the marriage of the ward.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

20096. - TO MADAME LA COMTESSE DE MONTESQUIOU, GOVERNOR OF THE CHILDREN OF FRANCE, AT SAINT-CLOUD.

Haynau, June 7, 1813.

Countess de Montesquiou, I see with pleasure that my son is growing and continues to give hope. I can only show you my satisfaction for all the selves you take from them.

The death of the Duke of Friuli has pained me. It's been twenty years the only time he did not guess what could please me.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by General Count de Montesquiou-Fezensae.

20097. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Haynau, June 7, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, order my minister at Weimar to retire to Erfurt, and give a note to the Duke, where he will inform him that I am extremely dissatisfied with his conduct; that he will be responsible for all the harm done to the army by enemy parties in his states; that I will only admit as superior force detachments with infantry and artillery. My minister will tell him at the same time that he is not meeting any of his commitments; that he has not provided his contingent, while on the contrary his troops have served against me against Glogau, whom the commander whom he chose has betrayed him, and yet I do not learn that he has He did not show him any indignation at his conduct; that he must at last beware of the consequences of all this. The same note will be given to the Duke of Saxe-Cobourg, and my minister will, on the contrary, show my satisfaction to the Prince de Reuss-Schleiz.

Write to my minister near the Grand Duke of Würzburg that I prefer cavalry to infantry: the cavalry is very good; I would prefer[368]

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so that Wurzburg provides me with less infantry, and furnishes me with one more cavalry squadrons.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,

20098. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, GENERAL MAJOR OF THE GRANDE ARMY, AT HAYNAU.

Haynau, June 7, 1813,

My Cousin, a 4th Cavalry Corps will be organized. This corps will be composed, 1st) two Polish cavalry divisions, 6,000 horsepower; 2nd) a division of heavy cavalry, which I reserve the right to appoint. Count de Valmy will command this corps; he will go to Zittau, where he will have to be from the 11th to the 12th. It will be at Zittau that this corps will meet. There will be attached four artillery batteries on horseback, namely: two Polish artillery and two French artillery.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20099. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, GENERAL MAJOR OF THE GRANDE ARMY, AT HAYNAU.

Haynau, June 7, 1813.

Cousin, write to the King of Westphalia to complete his contingent. His division will be part of the 11th corps. Bring back to me the state of the Westphalian infantry and artillery here, and propose to me to direct them to the 11th corps. This division has, I believe, a number. Warn the Duke of Tareute of that disposition, which will increase his army corps of a division. I believe that the artillery is under the orders of the Duke of Ragusa; it must also pass to the corps of the Duke of Taranto. All the Westphalian troops at Dresden will also join the 11th corps, as soon as there are eight battalions of the young Guard in that city; four have already arrived there.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20100. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, GENERAL MAJOR OF THE GRANDE ARMY, AT HAYNAU.

Haynau, June 7, 1813.

My cousin, you will inform Count Bertrand and the various generals that my intention is for the troops to be encamped.[369]

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They may be confined until the locations have been selected and the camps formed. I leave the generals masters to form a single camp, or to camp their corps by division, within reach of the small towns where there would be the most resources. The camps will be placed in healthy places and within reach of the forests, so that the troops can enjoy the shade, something so important in this season.

Have the condition of all that belongs to the division of General Sebastiani, who is with the Duke of Bellune, so that Dresden is directed all these men on Krossen, without first sending them to the corps of General Sebastiani.

Order that General Doumerc's Cavalry Division, which is in the 11th Corps, proceed to Sagan to join the 1st Cavalry Corps.

Order the state of the remaining Chastel Division regiments with General Lauriston.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20101. - TO COUNT DARU, DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BIG ARMY, HAYNAU.

Haynau, June 7, 1813,

Count Daru, the Grand Marshal Duke of Frioul was depositary of the key (which we must keep close to us) of our reserve treasury, either the extraordinary domain or the Crown. Our intention is that you make the delivery of the key without delay and that you are the depositary; you will make this disposition known to the Baron de la Bouillerie, and you will see there a proof of the confidence which we have in you.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20102. - TO M. DE CHAMPAGNY, DUKE OF CADORE, INTENDANT GENERAL OF THE CROWN, IN PARIS.

Bunzlau, June 7, 1813.

My intention being to give a proof of my satisfaction to the Duke of Lodi, you will make him present one of my paintings at the foot of the Goblins. I suppose there are facts; if not, have one put on the canvas, but be copied from Gerard, and announce it to the Duke of Lodi,

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[370]

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20103. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Bunzlau, June 7, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, the Prince of Eckmühl entered Hamburg on the 30th of May, and I hope that he will also have entered Lübeck before the 2nd. It appears that the Danish troops have joined ours. Have this news put in the newspapers of Dresden and Leipzig, and send it to the Count of Narbonne at Vienna. It gives me much pleasure.

I think it would be convenient to make a treaty with Denmark; the other having been violated by the entry of the Danish troops into Hamburg, we can no longer trust them. The guarantee of Norway and the States of Denmark would be made by me. Denmark would undertake not to make peace with England except with me, or with my consent. As for the troops, the quantity that Denmark will supply will be specified, as well as what I can provide to defend Holstein. Finally, also understand in the treaty the exit of a large quantity of horses, by payment in cash. I will not refuse to pay the pay of a certain number of troops, but especially of the cavalry and the artillery, and these troops would be entirely at my disposal and could come as far as Silesia and as far as Stettin. As soon as they leave Holstein, I agree that they are in my pay.

If Denmark could give a good division of 6 to 8,000 infantry and 5 to 6,000 cavalry, with adequate artillery, I would gladly pay for them, but especially the cavalry. Tell the minister that the king could make an advantageous speculation by supplying himself the horses, since he could pay them in paper or as he would hear, while I would pay them in cash.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Send the attached letter to the King by an extraordinary courier, who will pass through Augsburg and Leipzig.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.[371]

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20104. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMOURG.

Bunzlau, June 7, 1813.

My Cousin, testify my satisfaction to General Vandamme on the occupation of Hamburg. I send you an orderly officer who is an engineer officer; he will see in detail Hamburg, the islands, Harburg, Lüneburg, Lübeck, if you are there, the fort of Cuxhaven, and will come to report to me all that you do and in what way the works are directed. The major-general had to make known to you my system, it is the one which I adopted for all the big cities. A city like Hamburg could only be defended by a garrison of 25,000 men and a huge piece of equipment, and to run the risk of losing a garrison of 25,000 men and a huge piece of equipment, it would take a place that could defend itself for at least two months of open trench. Now, to give the Hamburg compound a resistance of two months open trench, it must not be less than ten years and 30 to 40 million. But I want to keep Hamburg, not only against the inhabitants, against the troops of the line, but even against a siege crew. I want that, if 50,000 men present themselves before Hamburg, the city is not only safe from a hand, but can defend itself, force the enemy to open the trench and support fifteen or twenty days open trench .

These results, I want to get this year with the only expense of 2 or 3 million, with a material of one hundred to one hundred and fifty guns and a single garrison of 6,000 men. I want that, in this hypothesis, the city taken after a blockade of fifteen to twenty days open trench, I lose nothing, neither cannons nor men, and that the garrison can take refuge in a citadel and defend itself during one or two months of open trench, according to the capacity and degree of perfection to which this citadel will be brought. The simple exposure of this system explains it. You have to work on it without losing an hour. Twenty-four hours after the arrival of my order officer, 10,000 workers must be at work. 1st) You must first have all the houses ruthlessly demolished on the rampart, unless the indemnity is to be paid by the city; 2nd) you must bring down all the houses on the glacis; 3rd) all the houses that are on the citadel; 4th) at the same time you have to raise all the parapets, digging all the ditches; 5th) draw drawbridges to all doors; 6th) to make[372]

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half-moons in front of all the doors; 7th) put water as much as ditches can contain; 8th) do what is necessary to practice a flood in the parts that are susceptible; 9th) to close at the throat all the most important and largest bastions with a crenellated wall, the least important with a good palisade; 10th) to work on a covered road and a glacis, to fence the covered roads; 11th) to place on each bastion at least four pieces of cannon, two of a caliber of 12 on higher, two of a lower caliber; 12th) to place mortars, to be able to fire against the city, in the two largest bastions, and especially in the bastion and part of the enclosure which is between two lakes and which can easily be isolated and considered as a citadel; 13th) to restore the entrenchments which cover the great suburbs, to palisade them well, to establish some blockhouses there; 14th) to occupy all the islands by a system of redoubts and dikes, to make even bridges on stilts on the little arms; to make two ferries on each big arm, as I have practiced at Antwerp, one for the ebb tide and the other for the rising tide, so that 100 horses and 500 infantrymen can pass at once; to raise, arm, and pick up Harburg, Suppose all these works done, and they can be done in a few months, it is evident that four companies of artillery and 5,500 men will be masters of Hamburg.

To complete the system, draw a citadel between the river and the city, so that the citadel, the islands, and Harburg were one system. This citadel may first be the earthen wing, with ditches full of water, good palisades, and wooden armor for the artillery stores, the powder magazines, and the garrison. You see that, the city taken after a siege in order, the garrison would take refuge in the citadel, in the islands and in Harburg. All this can be done in the year. In the next years, I will make the stone citadel and give it all the strength I can.

This is the defensive system I adopted for Hamburg. I order General Haxo to trace, execute, and study it. But it is very important that you take advantage of the first moment to throw down all the houses that would hinder the location of the citadel, as I said above. I know that General Haxo had planned to place the citadel on Altona's side: this is not possible, it would frighten the Danes. Besides, my intention is that the citadel is a beachhead on the right bank, Harburg a[373]

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bridgehead on the left bank, the islands a means of communication. You know that I did not see Hamburg; that one must study the spirit of the order which I give, and not the letter, so that on the 15th of July there will be no difficulty in leaving 6000 isolated men at Hamburg, and that their communication with the left bank is safe from worry.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20105. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Bonzlau, June 8, 1813, in the morning,

My Cousin, the Grand Equerry must have written to Count Remusat to ask for comedians for Dresden. I very much wish it to make a noise in Paris, since it will only have a good effect in London and Spain, by making us believe that we are having fun in Dresden. The season is not very peculiar to comedy: so we must send only six or seven actors at most, but good choices and able to mount six or seven pieces. They should also be made to travel without glamor, and in such a manner as to avoid any embarrassment on the road. All the same, it is necessary to let Paris make the requests as if the whole tragedy were to leave, and to let chat on this subject. Remusat will choose, or the Comédie Française or Feydeau. If we could not have a good one, we would have to give up this idea.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

20106. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Goerlitz, June 8, 1813.

My Cousin, Baron Meneval, master of petitions, secretary of the Empress's commands, must do nothing. I do not approve that you have charged him to erase what must be cut off from the news that is put in the newspapers. It's up to the minister of war to take care of that. It is quite natural, however, to communicate the news to the Empress before putting them in the gazelles, but that does not affect anything that must be published. I can not imagine how embarrassed you were with such a simple thing.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.[374]

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20107. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMOURG

Dresden. June 10, 1813.

Cousin, I sent to the police all the letters you sent me concerning the Comte d'Artois. It seems to me important that you should use this emblem of Hamburg, which has the decoration of the Legion of Honor, as an agent, and that you send it without delay to the Comte d'Artois in England, to him, promising a reward commensurate with the services he will give you.

The nine battalions which were lacking in the 3rd Division were at Utrecht; I have long given them orders to go to Wesel: thus these battalions must be near their corps today. I ordered that the 1st division, which is on Krossen's side, under the command of the Duke of Bellune, went to Wittenberg. It is essential that you leave the 5th Division, also on Wittenberg.

I have written to you and made known my intentions with regard to the fortifications of Hamburg and all that concerns its armament. I order General Baltus to go to Hamburg to command the artillery, and 200 thousand powder to be sent from Wesel to Hamburg, as well as four artillery companies. Make sure that there are one hundred and fifty guns burning on the ramparts and in the works, in the first days of July. Work on bridges and ferries on the Elbe, opposite Hamburg. General Haxo is ordered to surrender momentarily to Hamburg; this general has orders to supply an engineer officer taken at Magdeburg. We must use all the Danes, cavalry, infantry and artillery. Their infantry would probably be worth the infantry of the Hanseatic cities and the landwehr Berlin. The batteries belonging to the division of Hamburg are running to join it.

So you will have four divisions. It will be necessary to have three, or at least two, to operate in the direction of Berlin, as soon as the armistice comes to be denounced, if peace does not take place.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess of Eckmuhl.[375]

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20108. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 11, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I received the letter that the King of Naples wrote to you on May 18th. Tell him that everything leads me to think that Austria has pretensions incompatible with the honor of France, and that she would like to take advantage of the circumstances to reconsider the losses she has made in previous wars. It seems that it wants nothing less than the Illyrian provinces, a part of the country of Salzburg and Tyrol, and even a part of the Venetian provinces; that it consequently brought together 60 tcvo 80,000 men in Prague, which led me to gather 80,000 men at Wurzburg and as much at Laybach; that it is impossible for the kingdom of Naples to deprive itself of a force of 30,000 men, but that I desire it to be able to furnish at least a good division of 10 to 12,000 infantrymen, with 1,500 horses and twenty- five pieces of cannon, and sent her off in the early days of July to Bologna, where she would await the outcome of the events. If the war was going on, she would go to Laybach, and if it was settled she would return to Naples. I even want the march of this column to be known, since this may have an influence on the negotiation. I would like the King to give the command of his troops to a French general.

Finally write to him that he must understand that the Adige once lost, his kingdom would be too, and that if he waited to make this movement that the battle would have been given on the side of Layhach or Isonzo, it would be no longer time; that it is therefore definitely necessary that, on the 15th of July, his division should be under Bologna, and be able to assist the Viceroy, who at that time will be encamped on the heights of Laybach; to make known positively and without hesitation what he can and wants to do; but that which will not come out of his kingdom in the first days of July will not be able to count; that it is especially cavalry and artillery that would be necessary; that if her division can not be 12,000 infantry, she must be at least 12,900 men in all.

NAPOLEON.

According to • original. Foreign Affairs Archives.[376]

20109. - TO GENERAL BABON ROGNIAT, COMMANDING THE ENGINEERS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN

Dresden, June 11, 1813.

Part of Glogau's defense consists of mines. It is necessary that there be an engineer officer who is a good miner and hear this defense, and that you intend a company of miners for this place. This company will be exercised during the armistice, and will organize its service so as to do well the underground war in case of siege.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20110. - TO MARECHAL AUGEREAU, DUKE OF CASTIGLIONE, COMMANDING THE CORPS OF OBSERVATION OF BAVARIA, IN FRANCFORDT.

Dresden. June 11, 1813.

My Cousin, the Major General, will have you know my intentions on the meeting of Bamberg, Wurzburg, Aschaffenburg, and Hanau of the four divisions of the Mainz observation corps. As soon as you have two strong divisions each of more than six battalions, carry your headquarters to Würzburg. I need and I want to know you there. I need your headquarters to be in Würzburg before 1 July. I desire you to make a proclamation to make known that I have given you another proof of confidence in placing under your orders the six divisions which compose the Army of Mayence; that all the troops which join this army have already deserved the praises of the Emperor in the battles of Ulm, Austerlitz, Iena, Friedland, Wagram, and in the campaigns of Spain; that you hope that they will be worthy of the reputation they have acquired, and the victors of Lützen and Wursehen, who, in such a short time, knew how to confound the fallacious hopes of our enemies.

Have it put in the newspapers of Frankfort and others, it measures that the battalions will arrive, that many troops coming from Spain pass the Rhine, and that this army is still more beautiful and older than that which distinguished itself in Lützen and at Wurschen, finally make as much noise as you can. Instead of *observation corps*, say your *army*. Have the names of General Pernetv, commander-in-chief of your artillery, put in the papers; have it put the name of General Dode, who commands engineers; have them also put the names of the generals who command your divisions, so[377]

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that from the end of June, Germany has your eyes fixed on you and is very busy with the training of your army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duc de Mortemart.

20111. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 11, 1813.

Count Daru, you will want to send a hundred mills at once to Glogau's place; they will remain assigned to the service of this place, and they will be taken from those sent by the Minister of War. These hundred mills, being supposed to make 20,000 rations of flour a day, will furnish beyond the needs of the place; their surplus will serve for the army. Inform me of the arrival of these mills at their destination,

In addition, a thousand mills are needed to distribute to the battalions; their utility will become very great when approaching Poland; they must have arrived before the end of the season. Give me a report on that.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by M, Count Daru,

20112. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 11, 1813.

Count Daru, I am very dissatisfied with the hospitals of Dresden; there are not even regular distributions of bread, there is no food and there is no lint. I do not understand how, in a city like Dresden, and after all the measures I ordered, this service is no better. Bring the Intendant General, the Surgeon-in-Chief, the Chief Medical Officer, the Authorizing Officer, and the Hospital Superintendent to-morrow at your house to arrange the proper measures for the hospitals to have plenty of everything. The fault of this disorder is entirely with the administration of the army. She asks the administration of the country for requisitions of objects of detail which it can not provide. All these small objects can only be procured with money, and it is the case of giving them as I have done in such circumstances. As for the linen with dressing and lint, they can not fail, according to the precautions taken. You'll realize that tomorrow at noon, and you[378]

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I will put before my eyes the regulations I had made at Posen (1), in 1806. I mean that we do not require in Dresden any of the small objects which must be bought, such as medicines, & c. This must be provided by regular markets. I signed two agendas for the actions to be taken with respect to all hand or finger-injured men who may be suspected of having injured themselves voluntarily.

The means of evacuation by the river being too slow, present me a project to establish hospitals in the small towns, one or two days of Dresden, on the left bank of the Elbe, by choosing large buildings and in providing them with all that is needed. It will also be one of the objects of the work you will bring me tomorrow, so that only the 5 or 6,000 wounded in hospitals can be left in Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. Mr. Count Daru.

20113. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Dresden, June 11, 1813.

My Son, it is necessary that, without pretense of anything and without ostentation, you make the position of your army known on the heights of Carniola, between Laybaeh and ... (2) so as to make it clear to find in an offensive position, but still in the territory of the Illyrian provinces, to thus attract all the attention of the enemy, and to prevent him from attacking the Tyrol and Italy. This position would not be hostile, as the troops would remain confined to the vicinity of Laybach, but the location would be well recognized in advance, as well as the points on which one could raise redoubts. An army makes a retrenchment in eight days. Such an army will be encamped at Pirna, at the mouth of Bohemia, and a third at Rednitz, in front of Baireuth. The Bavarians will have a corps of observation to guard the Inn. It will be necessary, therefore, for Austria to have more than 200,000 men, an effort which she is at present incapable of doing, and which she could at most achieve in the spring of next. The aspect of these provisions will make him feel that I do not want to have my hands tied.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

1) Exhibit No. 11451 (Volume XIV, page 71). 2) Gap in the text.[379]

20114. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Dresden. June 11, 1813.

My Son, I have recommended that you talk a lot about yourself. I repeat the same order. Have in the newspapers that you have eight divisions; have them put the names of your divisional generals.

Let me know if I can count that General Grenier will have his headquarters from the 20th to the 25th of June at Verona, and if there will be forty or so French and Italian battalions with cavalry and artillery; if, in the first days of July, the head of this division could reach Udine, where General Grenier's headquarters would be carried.

A division should be set up in Udine, one in Osoppo, one in Verona and one in Bassano. Finally, in any case, and by repeated articles, make yourself visible; talk about the markets in Switzerland for your artillery, the many trains that are constantly arriving; that the articles of your journals be repeated in those of Augsburg, and that on all sides one learns the existence of even armed.

Let me know if on July 15th you can wear your headquarters in Laybach. How many battalions, squadrons, and artillery will you have?

Give me a state which will make me know, day by day, where will be, from the 1st of July to the 30th, all your batteries and all your battalions.

NAPOLEON

According to the comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20115. - TO M. MELZI, DUKE OF LODI, CHANCELLOR OF THE KINGDOM OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Dresden, June 12, 1813.

I receive your letter of June 1st. You can write to your nephew 1 through the Minister of Police. If your nephew(1) gives you his word that he will not leave you, I will give orders on the spot for your return, so I will wait for you to make a new request. But make sure he will not interfere in any plot.

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1) General Palafox,[380]

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I am glad to find an opportunity to give you proof of my satisfaction.
According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20116. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

The Duke of Bassano, make known to M. Bogne, who is at Baireutb, to the Baron de Saint-Aignan, to Weimar, to Count Germain, at Wurzburg, and to Baron Reinhard, at Cassel, whom I have charged General Castex to form several columns to pursue the enemy partisans; that it is necessary that they send to this general all the information they have on the partisans. They will send them by courier that they will address to the commanding general the column nearest to their residence.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20117. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 13, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I do not want the Weimar contingent in infantry, nor that of Gotha. Make new treaties with these two princes, so that their contingents are supplied in cavalry, diminishing them in proportion to the expense. I believe that the expense to the cavalry is to that of the infantry as 2 to 1. Confer on it with Count Daru, and report to me on this subject. The Saxon or German cavalry is good, on Mondays the infantry is mediocre.

I have already told you that I wished the contingent of Würzburg to be increased in cavalry and diminished in infantry.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20118. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

Cousin, give orders to all Saxon light cavalry who are with General Latour-Maabourg to go to Gœrlitz, in order to[381]

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to be able to recompose. Instruct the aide-de-camp of the King of Saxony; make known to this aide-de-camp, who fulfills the functions of minister of war, that I hope that, on the 15th of July, I shall have at Gœrlitz two divisions of Saxon infantry, forming 16,000 men present under arms, and the regiments complete light cavalry. Each division should have two batteries of eight pieces each, namely six pieces of six and two howitzers, which would make sixteen pieces per division or thirty-two pieces for the two divisions; there would have to be a six-piece mounted artillery battery, and finally a six-piece reserve battery of 12 and two howitzers, or, if there are no howitzers, eight 12. General Reynier would therefore have forty-six pieces of Saxon cannon worn in full force. Write to him to inform him that his corps will be composed of two Saxon divisions, each of 8,000 men, and the Durutte division, which has 6,000, which will make 22,000 infantry; lastly, all the Saxon cavalry, which, I suppose, will go from 2,500 to 3,000 horses; as for the artillery, it will be composed of two French batteries of the Durutte division, sixteen pieces, four Saxon feet batteries (two by division), thirty-two pieces, eight pieces of 12, reserve, one Saxon horse battery, six pieces; in all, sixty-two guns.

It is proper that the Saxon divisions should have their sapper companies and their ambulances, so that the corps of General Reynier is 25 to 30,000 men.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20119. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO, MINISTER OF POLICE GENERAL, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

I do not like the tone of your correspondence; you always annoy me for the need of peace. I know better than you the situation of my Empire, and this direction given to your correspondence does not produce a good effect on me. I want peace, and I am more interested in it than anyone: your speeches on it are therefore useless; but I will not make a peace which would be dishonorable, or which would bring back a more bitter war in six months. Do not answer that; these matters do not concern you, do not interfere with them.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[382]

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20120. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

It seems that there are robberies in the shops of Münster; have an investigation and serious examples. These storekeepers are just flying.

The after the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20121. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden. June 13, 1813.

I wish that on the 15th of September, about twenty of my frigates will be on board, with six months of provisions, and with the instructions that you deem most suitable, to establish cruises and to do the greatest possible harm to the enemy. It will be necessary to take care of placing on these frigates the young sailors to train them, by removing the old ones to put them on the vessels. Send me all the necessary orders, so that I receive them at Dresden before the 10th of July, so that I may return them signed, so that the exit of these frigates does not experience any delay. The Americans complain that we do not send frigates to tire the enemy, and they would even want six of my ships to be sent to their ports. Confer with the Minister of America when he arrives in Paris. I would see no difficulty in sending six ships to America and selling them to the Americans for what they are worth, or sending six of my ships to their ports, provided it was a feasible operation and brought a result. But you know that my principle is not to risk my ships and bring out only my frigates, until there is more balance between the two navys.

As for the Scheldt, my intention is for a squadron of nine ships to come from the Scheldt to Brest or Cherbourg. For this purpose, if these nine ships could not leave before the ice of December, they would enter Flushing to go out between two ice. Let me know if this can happen. I attach the greatest importance to this operation. My first maritime interest is to have at Brest a fleet of twenty-five vessels. Give orders that the two ships that are at Lorient sail in the month of September to also go to Brest.[383]

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As for Cherbourg, I do not hear any more about it, which makes me suppose that the cofferdam is not yet removed. Let me know when this great operation will take place and when the four vessels that are under construction in Cherbourg will be launched in the water. It is also very important for me to have a squadron of six to seven vessels in the bay of Cherbourg.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire

20122. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke Decres, I see with pleasure that the *Regulus* has passed. Try to have five other ships pass by September, so that they can sail in October to Brest. I attach great importance to having a fleet of twenty vessels at Brest. If these vessels, by any circumstances, could not enter Brest, they could go to Cherbourg.

NAPOLEON.

According to original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

20123. - TO FREDERIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, STUTTGART.

Dresden, June 13, 1813.

Brother, I received your Majesty's letters of the 5th, 6th and 7th of June. I have ordered my Minister of Foreign Affairs to give passports to the person your Majesty wishes to send to London. I do not think that we are in the position of successfully opening peace to England, which has declined those proposed by Russia and Prussia, and which seems resolved to make peace on principles which these powers, which will not be suspected of having favored me, have found them so absurd and so inadmissible that they have not even wished to hear them. In the moment of their intoxication, these powers have proposed the treaty of Lunéville as the basis of peace; England rejected it with indignation as too favorable to France.

The armistice is not necessarily followed by a congress; I proposed it, but it is not cleared yet. According to my proposals, the envoys of the belligerent powers would be summoned, and consequently your Majesty's minister.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.[384]

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20124. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden, June 15th, 1813.

My Cousin, I have made known to you the new dislocation of your corps into three divisions. I made known to you my intention that the 50th division, known as Hamburg, should be increased by the 33rd light, which will bring this division to sixteen battalions. I ordered that a battery of artillery on foot and a battery of artillery on horseback, in all fourteen guns, should be attached to this division. I made known to you by one of my orderly officers my intention to put Hamburg in a respectable state. Since then, I have sent there General Baltus and my aide-de-camp, Senator Drouot. I also ordered that 200,000 guns and everything necessary for the arming of the fort be ordered from Wesel to Hamburg. I send you a copy of a letter that I write to the Minister of War (1).

Hamburg is much too far to the left, and leaving the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd *bis*, and 50th divisions, which make seventy-five to eighty battalions, would deprive me of far too great strength. I shall therefore probably send you in a few days order to assemble in Magdeburg the 1st and 2nd divisions, which make thirty battalions, with two batteries of horse artillery and a reserve battery under the orders of General Vandamme. My intention is to join to this corps the division commanded by General Teste; so that General Vandamme, at the break of the armistice, will be with 25,000 men two days ahead of Wittenbers and two days from Berlin, besides the 6,000 cavalry men of the Duke of Padua. The Duke of Reggio's corps is at Baruth and Luckau, which will bring together on my left some fifty thousand men. During this time, you will occupy Hamburg with the 3rd, 3rd bis, 50th, and a Danish corps of 15,000 men, as well as the most important positions of the 32nd Military Division, and, depending on which forces you oppose, you march in Mecklenburg, taking the offensive; if the enemy presented you with too great a force, you would remain on the defensive, and you would have to prepare everything so that, if necessary, you could leave the guard of Hamburg to 7 or 8,000 men, including the customs officers, gendarmes and gunners, and bring your headquarters to the left bank of the Elbe, to Harburg or to

1) Part no. 20125.[385]

Lüneburg: what would leave you in the hand all the 3rd division and part of the 3rd *bis* to defend the left bank and to oppose all the attempts of the enemy.

The possession of Hamburg is of the highest political importance and of great military importance; and I can not rest on this important point until Hamburg can be regarded as a stronghold, supplied with supplies for many months, and provided with all that is necessary for the defense.

The incoming case where the above dislocation would take place, you would keep the artillery of the 3rd division and the artillery of the 50th, with a reserve battery; which makes about forty guns, not to mention the artillery of the Danish corps.

As for the cavalry, you have a thousand horses. I have just ordered General Bourcier to send you a thousand men of light cavalry, whom you will assemble and equip at Hamburg.

For the military teams, the four companies of the 10th and 12th battalions who will be the soonest ready will follow the corps of General Vandamme, who will always remain part of the 1st corps, of which he will be a detachment. I write all this for your instruction.

The orderly officer who brings you this letter is an officer of artillery; make him visit the place, the islands and Harburg, see the armament, etc. After that, you will send it back to me.

Write to Wesel by courier so that before the 15th of July you have in Hamburg the ammunition and all that is necessary for the defense. Take your precautions so that at this time the stores are in state.

NAPOLEON.

According to original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20125. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 15th, 1813.

The Duke de Feltre, my Minister of War, order that 100,000 kilograms of powder should be sent forthwith from Wesel to Hamburg, and that Holland and even Magdeburg should be fired from Delft, without, however, weakening that of Holland. last, all that will be necessary for the arming of Hamburg, where I wish to have, before the 10th of July, a hundred and fifty pieces of cannon placed on the ramparts and in the external batteries, supplied with six hundred blows, and at least two millions of cartridges and all that is needed for a long defense.[386]

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Order also that there be supplies for ten thousand guns for six months.

You will recall my previous orders, so that all the expenses of the engineers, the artillery and the supplies are made at the expense of the city.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Mis. the Marshal Princess of Eckmühl.

20126. - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, GRAND SQUIRE OF THE EMPEROR, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 15th, 1813.

I beg you to let me know every day the hour at which the courier of Paris leaves and the hour at which he arrives. You will give me the same information on the courier of Neumarkt, Hamburg and Magdeburg, and on all the other couriers.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20127, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAU, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 16, 1813,

Cousin, I receive your letter of the 15th; I never ordered that the soldiers of the 85th and 108th should be incorporated into the 3rd corps, that would be absurd; if it has been written to you, it is by mistake; it is in the 1st body that they must be. Order that these men go immediately to Wittenberg, even having them embark on the Elbe so that they arrive more quickly, and that they are incorporated into the 2nd battalions of these regiments. Officers and NCOs will return to France to their 5th battalions.

Formerly you announced the receipt of my orders, and then I saw if there had been any mistake in copying.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20128. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 16, 1813.

My Cousin, it is necessary to gather in Zittau all the Poles who are in Wittenberg and Erfurt and who want to serve, in order to organize[387]

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the Polish corps. They must be replaced in the garrisons of Wittenberg and Erfurt. Give me a report on that.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20129. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 16, 1813.

Cousin, write to the King of Bavaria, whom I saw with pleasure, that he formed a camp at Munich, and that General de Wrede was in command of it; that I wish to be informed of the strength of this camp, infantry, cavalry, and artillery; that I also wish that Kufstein be in good condition, and that Augsburg be rearmed and put in order, so that the city is safe from partisans and a helping hand. This seems to me very important.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20130. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 16, 1813.

My Cousin, it, lacks the complete army artillery crews forty-six batteries, including eighteen division, ten reserve, eighteen horse. These batteries will be provided by the places designated below and according to the following distribution, namely:

Magdeburg, four division batteries, three reserve and five on horseback. Of the four divisional batteries, two are for the 5th division of the 2nd corps, which will take them as it passes, one for the 11th corps and one for the Teste division. Of the three reserve batteries, one is for the 2nd corps, which it will join with the 5th division, two are for the 11th corps, which will return to the 6th corps the battery it has. Of the five on horseback, one is destined for the 2nd corps, which it will join with the 5th division; one is for the 11th Corps, two are for the 1st Corps and one for the 2nd Cavalry Corps. Total, twelve batteries.

Mainz must supply eight division batteries, three reserve and eight on horseback. The eight division batteries are for the Mainz body. Of the three of reserve, one is for the 4th body and two are for that of Mainz. Of the eight horse batteries, four are for the 3rd Cavalry Corps, two are for the 4th Idem and two are for the Mainz Corps. Total, nineteen batteries.[388]

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Wesel is to supply five division batteries, four reserve and five on horseback. Of the five divisional batteries, one is for the 50th division, one for the Teste division, one for the 12th corps and two for the 2nd corps with the 6th division. Of the four reserve batteries, two are for the 1st corps, one is for the 2nd and one for the 12th. Of the five mounted batteries, two are for the 1st corps, one for the 2nd with the 6th division, one for the 12th corps and one for the 50th division.

Dresden will supply a division battery to the 7th corps.

By means of the execution of these dispositions, the artillery of the army will be completed to a hundred and eighty French and six foreign batteries; which makes a total of nine hundred and ninety-six guns, without understanding the artillery of the Guard.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20131. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Dresden, June 16, 1813.

Brother, I receive your letter of June 14th. I do not think it is wrong that, in the circumstances in which you were, you wrote to General Dombrowski and diverted him from his path. You did it for General Teste, and I found it very well, and I will find it equally well on all occasions, since you act knowingly; but in no case can I be sure that you have given an order on my behalf.

Mobile columns are moving on all sides to seize all that remains on the left bank of the Elbe, my intention being not to let it pass. Send the information you have to the Duke of Padua, commander of the 3rd Cavalry Corps at Leipzig, and General Doucet, Commander at Erfurt.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

20132. - TO M. MARET, DUC DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, send a person from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately to go as charge d'affaires to the Prince de Dessau. He will at the same time watch over the states of the other princes of Anhalt. He will report to you[389]

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everything that is done and everything that happens. Give him the order to write to you for this purpose every day by the courier. It is a good observer that I want to place there; he must send agents to Berlin to be informed of all that goes on there. This charge d'affaires must be gone tonight at midnight.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20133. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Padua to send officers to the King of Westphalia to find out where the partisans are. He will send orders to General Dombrowski to beat the country, unless he is already on his way to Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20134. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, inform the Duke of Ragusa that the pay will be paid for two months; that the treasure has left Erfurt, and is waiting for it at every moment; that consequently the payor of his corps d'armee may come and make his preparations for taking his funds. The Duke of Ragusa also found resources in the country for the shoes and the reorganization of his equipment and artillery; that he gives orders to the steward of the country.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20135. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGHAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT AMRÉE, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

My cousin, write to General Lapoype, as well as to the governor of Magdeburg, to the Prince of Eckmühl, and to all the generals of the army corps, that I need to have daily reports of what is happening in their boroughs and on their frontiers, to be informed of all that happens to their knowledge, and especially of all the movements which take place on the line of demarcation.[390]

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Reiterate to them not to allow horses, oxen, provisions, or anything of value to the army to pass.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20136. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT AMRÉE, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, order the Prince of Moskva, the Duke of Treviso, the Duke of Ragusa, the Duke of Reggio, the Duke of Belluno, the Duke of Taranto, General Reynier, General Lauriston, General Bertrand, establish correspondence posts between them, so that they write to each other daily and be informed of all that is new.

Send the Duke of Taranto and General Reynier the departure time of the courier of Glogau at Haynau and Liegnitz at Dresden, so that they may profit by it. Send the same thing to Prince Poniatowski, so that he may correspond with Breslau, Goerlitz, and Bautzen, so that he may be informed of all that is new.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20137. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT AMRÉE, IN DRESDEN

Dresden. June 17, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Reggio that I give him 300 quintals of rice to take in Torgau. My intention is that an ounce a day be given to soldiers as a cure for dyssenteris. This will supply his corps for thirty days. Write the same thing to General Bertrand; that both send this supply to Torgau. Write to the Duke of Treviso that it is my intention that he give an ounce of rice every day to the soldiers; he must have his supply for forty days. Write the same thing to the Prince of Moskva; he has with him 300 quintals of rice, which he distributes at the rate of an ounce a day. Write the same thing to the Duke of Ragusa; I give him 150 quintals of rice to take in Torgau and 150 quintals to take in Dresden; that he sends them to seek. Write the same thing to General Lauriston; I am assured that he has 300 quintals of rice. Make known to the Duke of Dalmatia that he must give, caissons of the Guard, a[391]

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every day the soldiers of the Guard who are in Dresden, and that he makes his supply so that from the 20th of this month all the Guard receives an ounce a day until the 20th of September.

NAPOLEON.

According to the original, War Depot,

20138, - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT AMRÉE, IN DRESDEN

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Padua, that I have received serious complaints about his conduct at Hanau; that he received in this city 10 Louis a day; that this conduct is unworthy of his rank and the situation in which he is placed; that he should receive nothing from Leipzig, and that he should at once send away all he has received to those who have paid him, Write to him confidentially that this conduct has done me a good deal hardly, at a time when the people are crushed by the accommodation of the soldier and by the expenses of the war. Write the same thing to the Duke of Castiglione; let him take nothing and restore the money received, that in the state of oppression in which the princes are, they take into account all the charges, and that this is reported to me; Finally, take nothing and make sure nothing is taken.

NAPOLEON,

From the original. Deposit of the war

20139, - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN HAMBURG,

Dresden, June 11, 1813,

My Cousin, I have the greatest need of rice; it is the only way to prevent dyssentery in the army. Have a market made with the transports of commerce, and direct on Dresden 5,000 quintals of rice; send us the other 5,000 by water. As I withdraw all supplies from Magdeburg, do not waste a moment in directing the 50,000 quintals of wheat and rye on Magdeburg.

Hit a requisition of 150,000 francs worth of medicines and ship them to Dresden.

NAPOLÉON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.[392]

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20140. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, let me know positively what is the situation of the troops that you have before you: 1st) the Swedes, where are they, and how much are they evaluated? 2nd) Czernitchef and Voronzof? they were on the Leipzig side in the first days of June; 3rd) Tettenborn, Walmoden and the bad troops they picked up?

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Mme Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

20141. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAMBURG

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Cousin, I am sorry you did not send the 5th Division all together; we are in war, we must bivouac every night. You do not know if you send this division with its two batteries or artillery. Send out the 152nd regiment without delay. The young troops are very good and are worth the old ones. I have just sent back to their regiments at Wittenberg the detachments of the 85th and 108th which were at Thorn. There are very good soldiers there.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Mme the Marshal Princess of Eckmühl.

20142. - TO COUNT DAHU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Count Daru, I summarize all that I have told you in my work this morning on the subsistence: 1st) You will give orders at once for the 20,000 quintals of flour that are in Erfurt to be sent to Dresden, without delay, and by the relays of the carts which I have established, so that it arrives 500 quintals a day. It would take forty days to bring in the 20,000 quintals. 2nd) You will immediately give orders for the 40,000 quintals of flour that are at Magdeburg to be sent immediately to Dresden, by land and water. Land transport will follow the left bank. For this purpose, send a transport agent to Magdeburg.[393]

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You will let me know how many boats it would take to carry these 40,000 quintals. We would go up all the boats we would find. I suppose they each carry 500 quintals; it would take 40 to bring 20,000 quintals; the other 20,000 might come on the ground, and at 500 quintals a day it will also take forty days. Land transport will have to be done through markets.

These two means taken, it is necessary that you make a market in Bohemia, or in Saxony, to have 20,000 quintals of flour, deliverable in Dresden, it begin as soon as possible, at the rate of 500 quintals a day; which, in forty days, would ensure the arrival at Dresden of 20,000 quintals of flour more. I know that there are contractors who offer to treat for 60 or 80,000 quintals; one could accept for 20,000, if they agreed to furnish 100 quintals a day; we might even make sure that they take advantage of the permission we have to draw from Bohemia. As for the price to be fixed, one could take the value of the quintal at Mainz, by adding 12 francs, or the price from which it comes from Bohemia, plus the cost of transport and something for convenience.

The million rations of biscuit which is at Erfurt will, without delay and in the same way, be directed on Dresden. In addition, every day in Dresden, 10,000 biscuit rations will be made which, in the forty days of the armistice, will give 400,000 rations. All battalions of military crews leaving Wesel or Mainz will be loaded with flour or rice. All the flours that would arrive in Dresden in this way will be in addition to the quantities mentioned above.

A fourth way is to get a market in Bamberg or Baireuth for 10,000 quintals to be transported to Dresden. You will base the price of the quintal on the price of Mainz at Dresden, plus 12 francs, and the latitude of 3 francs for convenience. This new route would provide another 500 quintals a day. Of course, it's flour, not grain.

In this way, on the 20th of July in Dresden, I shall have 80 to 100,000 quintals of flour, of countries to supply me with 30,000 rations of bread a day in Dresden, I suppose that during these forty days I will only take 18,000 rations. rations or 200 quintals a day, which would not be more than 10,000 quintals for forty days; so that at the moment of the rupture of the armistice I shall have in Dresden 1,400,000 rations of biscuit and 80 to 90,000 quintals[394]

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of flour. Ten or twelve days before the resumption of hostilities, when I have definitively stopped my plan of campaign, I will order to transport flour on Bautzen, Gœrlitz and Bunzlau. Independently of this, all the caissons of the army corps will arrive in Dresden before the end of the armistice, and will leave loaded with flour to follow their corps. I suppose there are caissons in the army to carry 20,000 quintals of flour.

PLACE OF GLOGAU. You have authorized a contract for the supply of 20,000 quintals to Glogau, which, together with the 10,000 quintals, would supply nearly 3 million rations; having left 1 million for the supply of the place, there would have been 2 that could be taken for the service of the army. You will order the commissioning commissioner of each corps to have the biscuit made and to take the necessary measures so that at the break of the armistice each body will have ten days of biscuit, six days of biscuit bread and four days of bread. which would make twenty days of food.

Rice. "My intention is that by the 20th of September, that is, for three months, the army should be given an ounce of rice for the day, less as food than as a remedy. I calculate that it would require 20,000 quintals of rice. 1,000 quintals exist at Glogau. The young Guard has 300, which will ensure his service for thirty days. You will order the young guard's ordering officer not to keep this rice in the store and give an ounce a day to each soldier. You will order the same thing to the authorizing officer of the 3rd corps, who must also have 300 quintals. You could draw from 1,000 quintals at Glogau what would be needed to service the 2nd corps, and supply what would be missing at the 3rd for a month. Of the 700 quintals that are in Torgau, you will give 300 to the 12th corps, which is at Luckau, and 300 to the 4th corps, which is at Sprottau, which would be enough for these two corps for a month. The 200 quintals that the young Guard has at Dresden will serve the old Guard and the young Guard encamped in front of this city. Order that the 1,300 quintals in Erfurt and the 1,200 quintals in Magdeburg be immediately directed to Dresden. It will also be necessary to conclude in Dresden contracts for the supply of 10,000 quintals, provided that the price does not pass 60 francs per hundredweight. If you could not conclude at this price, you would make a market for 1,000 quintals at a price of 70 francs. These 1,000 quintals would be paid at 200 quintals a day, beginning as early as possible; this will be used for the 6th corps as well as for the 11th and 5th corps. That would ensure their[395]

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service for a month, and during this time the 1,300 quintals of Erfurt and the 1,200 quintals of Magdeburg would arrive.

Thus, in recapitulating, there are: 300 quintals of the young Guard; 300 of the 3rd corps; 500 to take on the 1,000 who are in Glogau: 700 in Torgau; 200 of the Guard in Dresden; 1,000 to buy in Dresden, whatever the price; 1,300 from Erfurt; 1,200 from Magdeburg; a total of 5,500 quintals, which will be enough for 300,000 men for thirty days. As the need is 20,000 quintals, there are 14,500 quintals to buy. Give orders for him to immediately go from the markets in Frankfurt and Mainz to the competition of 5,000 quintals, at a price of 40 to 45 francs per quintal, and to be sent by the relays established in Erfurt and from there to Dresden. I required 10,000 quintals in Hamburg; order that 5,000 of these quintals be immediately loaded, by means of contracts with the commercial transport contractors, and directed to Dresden; the other 5,000 quintals will be transported by water on Magdeburg. 5,000 quintals could be bought at Bamberg, Nuremberg, etc., provided that, returned to Dresden, they return only 60 francs the quintal. Lastly, order that in Leipzig all the rice shops be put in hand, and all that will be possible will be directed to Dresden, except to pay for it afterwards. I order that, if there were more than 10,000 quintals of rice in Hamburg, we should put our hand on all that is there, and require 5,000 quintals in Bremen. All this will be directed on Dresden.

The health of the soldier must pass before the calculations of economy or any other consideration. Rice is the best way to avoid diarrhea and dysentery.

MAGDEBURG. The place of Magdeburg will thus be exhausted, but all will be replaced by the 50,000 quintals of grain I have requested at Hamburg, and the 50,000 quintals required in the 32nd Military Division, which will be transported there, as well as half of the 10,000 quintals of rice that I requested in Hamburg. The brandy, rum and wine required in Hamburg will also be transported there.

ERFURT. Erfurt would also be unprepared. It is of the greatest military interest that I always have in Erfurt 500,000 rations of biscuit and 10,000 quintals of flour. In order to provide for this, the commissary in charge of subsistence will consult with the agents of the subsistence, and on their report you will adopt one of the following parties, according as you think it most suitable: to bring from Mainz 10,000 quintals of flour which are there the 2,000 quintals at Fulde and the 1,000 quintals at Frankfort, and[396]

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finally, the 10,000 quintals at Wesel; or enter into a contract to purchase these 23,000 quintals, in whole or in part, in the kingdom of Westphalia or Saxony. Choose what will be the safest and most economical, but that your decision is made, and your orders left tomorrow before noon. There must also be 1,000 quintals of rice in Erfurt.

Oxen. "We will have Magdeburg come from the oxen for siege, since I suppose there is enough salted meat for the food of a garrison of 10,000 men for three months. Moreover, they could be replaced, if necessary, by the 6,000 oxen required in the 32nd Military Division. We can also bring the oxen that are in Erfurt, replacing them with a market in Westphalia. Finally, measures will be taken for the country to provide 30,000 rations of meat daily in Dresden. Let me know if all these means together can suffice for the needs. It would be necessary, independently of the current service, to have in Dresden a reserve of 2 or 3 million rations, which requires 4 or 5,000 oxen. The commissary for the maintenance of subsistence will confer on it with the agents of this party, and in his report you will decide on the best measures to arrive at this result; but it is necessary that, from tomorrow, all the orders of execution are gone.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru,

20143. DECISION

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

The burgomaster of Naumburg asks that the troops who go to Leipzig or change their direction during the annual fair, from June 20th to July 10th, the gain of the inhabitants consisting of the hirings they make to the merchants and foreigners.	Approved. We will let the bourgmestre know that I am glad to give this testimony to the city of Naumburg, which has behaved very well,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20144. - TO JEROME NAPOLEON, KING OF WESTPHALIA, A CASSEL.

Dresden, June 17, 1813.

Brother I received your letter of June 14th. I do not see any[397]

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difficult for you to come to Dresden. However, to avoid any ceremonial at the court of Saxony, it is necessary to come there incognito.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. Prince Jerome.

20145. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

My Cousin, you will order General Vandamme to leave Hamburg on the 25th to go to Magdeburg, where he will establish his headquarters. He will lead with him, 1st), one of the heavens mounted artillery batteries attached to the 1st corps; 2nd) one of the two batteries of 12 attached to the 1st corps; 3rd) the 1st and 4th battalions of the regiments which compose the 1st division; the 1st and 4th battalions of the regiments that make up the 2nd division.

1st division. - 7th Light Infantry, 12th, 21st, 17th, 30th Line Infantry.

2nd division. - 13th Light Infantry, 25th, 33rd, 57th, 85th Line Infantry.

The 2nd Division will meet at Magdeburg, the 1st at Wittenberg; the headquarters will be in Magdeburg. As a result, the 2nd battalions at Wittenberg 13th light infantry, 25th, 33rd, 57th, 85th line, will go to Magdeburg to wait for the 1st and 4th battalions of these same regiments and form the 2nd division. The 1st and 4th battalions of the 7th light, 12th, 17th, 21st and 30th of line, will go to Wittenberg; the 2nd battalions will wait in this place the 1st and 4th,

The 2nd battalions of the 15th light, 48th, 61st, 108th and 111th of line, will leave twenty-four hours after the reception of this order, either from Wittenberg or from Magdeburg; they will form a single brigade and go to Hamburg, so there will be in Hamburg:

1. The 50th division or division of Hamburg, which is now 5,000 men;

2. The 3rd division, namely: 15th light infantry, four battalions; 48th, 61st, 108th, 111th line infantry, sixteen battalions; total, twenty battalions;

3rd The division *bis* composed of the 3rd battalions of the 7th light, 12th, 17th, 21st and 30th line, which will form a brigade, and the 3rd battalions of the 13th light, 25th, 33rd, 57th and 85th of line, which will form a 2nd brigade.

The Prince of Eckmühl will form the 3rd Division, which will thus be three brigades. As a result, he will have under his command, in Hamburg,[398]

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the division of Hamburg, which, after the incorporation of the battalions of march, must be, as I said above, 5,000 men; the 3rd division, that is, twenty battalions or 12,000 men; the 3rd division *bis*, ten battalions or 6,000 men; total, 23,000 men.

Artillery. - Two batteries of the 3rd division, sixteen pieces; a battery of the 50th, eight pieces; a horse battery of the 50th, six pieces; one of the corps horse batteries, six pieces; a spare battery of the army corps, eight pieces; total, forty-four pieces.

General Vandamme will have at Magdeburg: the 1st division, fifteen battalions; the 2nd division, fifteen battalions. The Teste division will be garrisoned in Magdeburg until further notice.

Artillery. - 1st division, sixteen pieces; 2nd division, sixteen pieces; mounted artillery, six pieces; reserve artillery, eight pieces; total, forty-six pieces; plus the sixteen pieces of the Test Division. Total general, forty battalions or 24,000 men and sixty-two pieces.

This corps will be called General Vandamme's body; but it will always be part of the first corps. He will have General Baltus as artillery commander. The commander of the engineers will send a battalion commander, two engineer officers for each division, and two sapper companies. There will also be an authorizing officer of the 1st corps and a payer.

General Jouffroy will command the artillery of the part of the corps under the orders of Prince Eckmühl, and he will be specially charged with the defense of Hamburg.

You will order colonel Gen. Deponthon to go to Hamburg; he will have the superior command of the engineers, and, in case of an event, he will remain in the place.

You will take the necessary steps to ensure that these orders are carried out with the utmost activity.

Give orders for the Prince of Eckmühl to assemble in Hamburg and Harburg all the division of Hamburg; that he should assemble his 3rd division of twenty battalions in front of Hamburg; let him join the 3rd division *bis* at Luneburg, leaving two battalions on the coast; it borders the entire left bank of the Elbe. My intention is that with this corps d'armee and the Danes it will be able to take the offensive in Mecklenburg, as soon as the armistice is to be broken. He has not yet sent the situation report of the Danish division, infantry, cavalry, artillery.

As the 3rd Division is currently 20 battalions, it is[399]

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master to put General Loison there and put General Thiebault at the 3rd *bis*. I also let him master, split the 3rd division, so as to have three divisions of ten battalions each, but it would be only for the service and not for the organization: or he can put four battalions of the 3rd division with the 3rd *bis*, so that the 3rd division is to be of sixteen battalions and the third *bis* of fourteen.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20146. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

Cousin, I see from the letters of the Duke de Bellune that the enemy refuses to evacuate the town of Krossen and all its territory on the left bank of the Oder. The commissioners of Neumarkt replied to the claims of the Duke of Belize that "the pretensions of the enemies were well founded." These commissioners therefore did not understand the paragraph of Article IV of the Armistice Treaty, which says positively: "Since the mouth of the Katzhach, the line of demarcation will follow the course of the Oder to the border of Saxony and Prussia, & c. "

Thus the border of Saxony and Prussia on the Oder, beginning at a point situated between Niemaschkleba, in Saxony, and Neuendorf, in the territory of Krossen, it is very easy to convince oneself, at the inspection of the map, that the line of armistice follows the course of the Oder as far as Niemaschkleba, and that consequently Krossen and its territory on the left bank of the Oder must be handed over to the troops of the Duke de Bellune. Write in this direction to the commissioners of Neumarkt for these difficulties to be lifted.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20147. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

Cousin, answer General Haxo not to take care of the construction of a place at the mouth of the Plauen Canal on the left bank of the Elbe, since the localities are opposed to it; but that my intention is, as soon as we are masters of the right bank,[400]

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to build this place, establishing it at a point of intersection and occupying the left bank by a bridgehead. Thus the work must be postponed. If the localities are not more favorable for the place to be established at the mouth of the Havel, it will also be necessary to postpone it. At the same time, let General Haxo know that I have appointed him Commander of the Engineering of my Guard, and that, as soon as he has traced the works in Hamburg and resolved the principal questions, it is my intention that he should go to Wittenberg. to study the works to be done to make Wittenberg a great place. The layout of the enclosure is very defective. I have ordered for the moment that we content ourselves with covering it by a covered way; that small glasses were raised; to increase the sample and the profile of the place, and to build armor in the interior for the needs of the garrison. Let it be known to you that as soon as the works are built, my intention is to establish crowns or any other works in the Alexandrian style, so that this place offers a resistance of forty days.

I know that this work will be considerable, but it will be done successively and over time. General Haxo will have to stay in Wittenberg for several days to study the terrain well and to establish his opinion.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20148. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT SORBIER, COMMANDER THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

I have the greatest need of rifles. The Polish corps left 10,000 near Krakow; I gave orders to have them come as soon as possible. Send an officer to Zittau to confer with Prince Poniatowski, so that they come in all diligence.

We had to pick up rifles from Lützen and send them to Wittenberg for repair. Send 10,000 bayonets early to give to the soldiers who miss them.

Send artillery officers with money to bring in rifles as soon as possible, so that they arrive in six days instead of eighteen.

Write to the King of Westphalia to get 10,000 rifles and as many bayonets.[401]

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Give vouchers for the same number of rifles and bayonets to be issued in France.

There are 5,000 rifles in Strasbourg; send artillery officers to bring them around the clock.

I need 30,000 rifles, namely: 5,000 in Erfurt; 15,000 in Dresden; 5,000 to Wittenberg; 5,000 in Magdeburg. At the moment when hostilities recommenced, I would have 30,000 men without guns.

I need in Dresden 1,000 cuirasses and 500 cuirassiers; write to Mainz to have them come.

Write the same thing to Wesel to put in motion all the guns I need most urgently.

Write to the King of Wurtemberg's minister to obtain, if it were possible, to send 1,000 rifles, which would be sent out by convoy; they would be returned to Strasbourg and paid for.

Write the same thing to the King of Bavaria.

Bring in a company of gunsmiths from France; set up in Erfurt, Wittenberg, Magdeburg.

The Prince of Eckmühl withdrew 5,000 rifles from the disarmament of Hamburg. Write to be brought to Dresden 2,500, making a market for transport.

From the minute: Archives of the Empire.

20149. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, APARIS.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I have issued a decree for the organization of the Mainz Observation Corps, which will take the title of Observation Corps of Bavaria. You will see that this corps will be six divisions, making seventy battalions; on this number, you are responsible for choosing six of the executives returning from Spain. That will make 54,000 men of infantry, and, by joining a Bavarian division of 6,000 men, 60,000 men.

As for the cavalry, you will see that I have placed the 13th and 14th hussars. Propose me the means to put two regiments of cuirassiers or dragons.

I appointed Major General Milhaud to take command of this cavalry.

The artillery is fixed at one hundred and twenty pieces; but for the moment we will start by organizing seventy-six, according to the article[402]

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5 of the decree. The rest will be sent as we have the means to organize it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war,

20150. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUC DECREED, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

Duke Decres, the enemies have done great work in Hamburg, we work with the greatest activity to complete them. Hamburg is now a stronghold. I appointed General Hogendorp governor there, and there I place a garrison of 10 to 12,000 men. I will have an arsenal of land construction. I want a rear-admiral, who will shut himself up in the place and be under the governor's orders. This rear-admiral will have a flotilla crew, which you will complete to 1,000 men, all French or Italian; in case of siege, he will defend the communication with Harburg and the passes, and a part will serve as gunners. My intention is for a naval administration to be established at Hamburg, and a small arsenal of construction for the construction of brigs, gunboats and barges. For this purpose, you will send there company of 150 men each, which you will draw from Antwerp; three quarters will have to be French, but the other quarter may be Dutch. Command not to admit any man from the 32nd Military Division to the flotilla. All the misfortunes of this division are due to the fact that I have delayed fortifying Hamburg. Let me know when the flotilla will be reorganized, the arsenal established, the administration installed. Within twenty-four hours, send orders for the necessary employees and sailors to leave at once for Antwerp, Boulogne, Le Havre and Cherbourg. It will be necessary to organize in Hamburg a maistrance, all composed of Frenchmen, pilots, sailboats, carpenters, etc.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duchess Decrès,

20151.-TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

Count Mollien, I receive your letter of June 12th. I am and have never been of opinion on the good of the sinking fund. Count Daru must have already written to you on this object. I think the best of all is to pay all the money[403]

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cash; but that there are far fewer disadvantages to the service and the credit to be paid in vouchers that are eligible for domain acquisition and customs duties than to delay payments, and that, in the current state of affairs there is no better payment than the sinking fund bills. If you had put 60 or 80 million in the square, the public would have become accustomed to it. The course does not matter to me, because it can not have a serious influence on a paper that is refundable in a year or two, bears interest at 5 per cent and is eligible for domain acquisition and customs duties . Such paper never goes down. It is possible that he loses more or less: does not money lose against gold? and this loss is sometimes considerable when there are great needs; it does not matter, however, to the value of money. The stock market rating does not represent the real value of money any more than the 5 per cent. There are times when the need for money makes the 5 per cent sell, but what does it mean? the number of registrations that are trading in comparison to the existing mass? It is only a movement on the surface of the water and does not disturb the bottom. The sensible man who has his capital in 5 per cent exactly gets the interest and is not worried about the movements of the Stock Exchange. However, there is this difference: it is that we have seen the 5 per cent fallen to 80, and that many individuals who would like to realize in a year or two could fear that such a thing would happen; on the link that with the sums of the sinking fund we have the assurance of being refunded cash in a year or two, and that by that time these vouchers can be admitted in payment of domains or rights Customs. Take care less of their depreciation; go boldly; let the stock market tick and accustom the public to these bonds by an issue of 40 to 50 million. Above all, send it to the departments; let the administration of war never owe anything to the hospices; that it owes nothing to the departments and communes for requisitions; that the Minister of War pays with this money all he owes for indemnities of land and for various supplies made by the departments; that all the backlog of clothing, all that is due for the military transports, be paid on it. In this way the suppliers, who will be paid more exactly, will have more credit, will do their service better, and from then on everybody will gain.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.[404]

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20152. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Dresden, June 18, 1813.

My Son, I send you a decree that I have just made. The Minister of War will send it to you, but I will communicate it directly to you for immediate execution. You will see that the observation corps of Verona takes the title of observation corps of Italy. It will not escape you that I have formed the 7th division, or reserve division, of six battalions which are in Brittany and of eight Neapolitan battalions, that is, very distant battalions. I have placed in the first four divisions the battalions which are in Provence, but I have distributed them so that on the 1st of July you can have your six divisions, if not fourteen battalions, at least eleven or twelve each. Divisions of twelve battalions are sufficient, strictly speaking, to wage war in Italy, since this makes a force of more than 8,000 men under arms. Moreover, it is important that the Austrians see as many divisions as possible: this number is the first thing they will be instructed, and this also gives the means to organize properly the staff, artillery and engineers.

It will begin by putting an artillery battery on foot to each division; then a reserve battery and a horse artillery battery will be organized; then the second foot battery of each division, the other horse batteries and the second battery reserve.

There is no need in Italy for military crews; I always went there; All you need is a company with forty crates for your ambulances. You can, for this purpose, stop everything that has not passed Verona; you will write to Turin and Florence to find out what is left and what can be arranged there. You will also organize one or two companies for the Kingdom of Italy.

General Grenier, whom I believe in Italy, will take command first. I will think of sending you two other lieutenants general, so that you have two superior generals to command two separate corps. I sent you General Peyri. It is very important to have General Palombini; I repeat the order that he goes to Italy. I guess the general Pino will be able to control the guard. General d'Anthouard could command the artillery. If all this army is as I organized it by my decree, it would give you a force of 75,000 infantry and[405]

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5,000 men of cavalry, and with 5,000 men of artillery and engineering it would be an army of 85,000 men. I beg the Minister of War to complete in France eight or ten battalions, which will also be sent to you; because I have a lot of cadre from Spain and I still have a lot of men in the depots. The weakest in all this is the cavalry. I have sent General Guyon to Italy, whom you know and who is in the habit of serving under your orders, to command part of the cavalry. I will send you a general of cavalry division. I also asked the Minister of War to see you compose a second French regiment of 10,000 men of cavalry. I did not understand in the organization of this corps the Croatian regiments nor the foreign regiments.

If, however, Austria ceases to give us any anxiety, and this corps should come to Germany, it would be otherwise. In the first place he would have no Italian division, because I would rather leave the Italian troops in Italy to be well formed. I would leave most of the provisional demi-brigades in Provence and Brittany, and I would only bring, under the command of General Grenier, three strong divisions of forty-two battalions, namely: the 9th of the line, three battalions; the 35th, three; the 84th, three; the 92nd, three; the 53rd, three; the 106th, three; the 42nd, two; the 102nd, two; the six battalions of the Durult division; two Croatian battalions; two Dalmatian battalions; the 28th provisional demi-brigade, three battalions; the 29th, three, the 30th, four; because all the detachments that make up these demi-brigades have battalions in the army. This would make forty-two battalions, three divisions with fourteen battalions each. This corps would leave Verona, with 34,000 infantrymen. His artillery would then be two French mounted artillery batteries or twelve pieces, six French division batteries or forty-eight pieces, and two spare batteries or sixteen pieces, totaling seventy-six French pieces. He would have a company of military crews with his forty caissons. The cavalry would be of an Italian cavalry regiment of 1,000 men and a French regiment of 1,000 men. That would make a total of some forty thousand men, and you would have in Italy the Italian army and all the other battalions.

I ordered that the six cadre of the companies that were in Glogau, as well as what belongs to the Italian Guard, go to Italy.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg,[406]

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20153. - TO FREDERIC VI, KING OF DENMARK, TO COPENHAGEN.

Dresden, June 18, 1813,

Sir, I have seen with pleasure that in the midst of the vicissitudes of politics your Majesty's feelings for me have been invariable. The bad dispositions of Sweden towards France are the result of the refusal which I made constantly to adhere to the spoliation of Norway. When, since then, unfortunate events obliged my troops to return to the Elbe, and your Majesty made known to me his desire to treat with England, I adhered to it; my alliance would have been fatal to him, and I was the first to wish that it did not care what could assure the integrity of its states. I returned to your Majesty the four Danish crews which she had placed at my disposal at a moment when I had reason to fear that she would direct her policy against France. But events have gone farther; Your Majesty's troops have violated French territory. Since then, the explanations given to me by the President of Kaas and your Majesty's letter have completely satisfied me and have removed any kind of resentment. Your Majesty has repaired everything by having his troops put at the disposal of my generals. She can count on my feelings.

Your Majesty, however, must feel that relations between States are established by treaties; that I can not consider the latter as existing, since your Majesty has attempted negotiations with England and Russia, and that, moreover, his troops have entered my territory. I therefore think that it is necessary to negotiate a treaty, either in Dresden or Copenhagen, based on the relations existing between the two States, and which will fix our relations and our obligations in a definitive manner. It will add nothing to the sentiments of esteem and friendship I feel for your Majesty, which are independent of the events of the world.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of His Majesty the King of Denmark.

20154. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 19, 1813.

Cousin, I can hardly see the bad situation of the Bavarian army. This state, which has four million inhabitants, does not have 4,000 men of cavalry I it is a very bad economy which,[407]

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in these times of war, exposes him to be the prey of the light troops of the enemy and the least partisans.

The comparison with the Wurtemberg army has a difference quite to the advantage of Wurtemberg: this government has supplied its contingent, in which there are 2,000 cavalrymen; the Bavarians have no cavalry to the army; the king of Wurtemberg also has cavalry in his states, and the king of Bavaria does not have 2,000 horses; that does not do justice to the Bavarian administration.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20155. TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN ..

Dresden. June 19, 1813.

Cousin, I was extremely dissatisfied with the investigation of Thorn's surrender. I notice first of all that not only the corps of the place was not attacked, but that no advanced work had been taken, and that all the attacks had been repulsed, it is said, by the grape shots. advanced works or rampart. It is alleged that the garrison could not make sorties; if that were a reason to make room, it would not be worth it. The fear of being kidnapped by force was chimerical; Besides, it's a chance that we must always run. If, in the fear of being defeated, we did not go to the enemy, it would be useless to raise armies. But how could such a fear be conceived, when the enemy's trenches were still a hundred yards from the advanced works, that the works were milled and palisaded, and that the city was surrounded by a ditch full of water? Lastly, independently of the magistral line, there was a second line formed by an old wall preceded by a moat.

Have a new commission formed and investigate properly. The commanders of the engineers and the artillery will be questioned, and they will be positively asked how many days the place could have held. The B bezel was not even taken yet.

As to the reason there was in the place of the precious cadres to preserve, that reason alone would blame the commander. Commanders do not have a policy to do; the care of the Empire is not entrusted to them; they are responsible for defending a post, and they must do it to the last extreme, since every day they add to the defense of their place can put them in a position to be[408]

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rescued, or be of the greatest utility to the state, by preventing the enemy from disposing of his troops. Place in this new commission of inquiry three generals of division. As for the powder, this must be the object of an investigation, for the artillery would be very guilty if it had left this place with so little powder.

Even if it results from the investigation that no one is guilty, it must be made in a very firm tone; we must remember all the principles. Before a place can surrender, the advanced works must be taken and the master line attacked; the ditch must be passed and the place must have sustained several assaults. In a word, a place must defend itself until there is no longer any bread or ammunition, or until the enemy, having passed the moat, is lodged on the breach; still the governor is guilty if he has not established a retrenchment to render the breach useless.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20156. - DECISION.

Dresden, June 19, 1813.

The major general proposes the dismissal of the chief of battalion commander of the place at Liegnitz, which required magistrates 1,000 francs a month for expenses of table.	Put it on hold for a fortnight

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20157. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden, June 20, 1813,

Cousin, you will receive a copy of the decree which I have just taken for the arming of Hamburg, You will see that you have at this moment a piece of 36, nine of 21, seven of 18, one of 16, twelve of 12 , six of 8, thirty-three of 6 and three howitzers of 8 inches, which flees thirty-three guns of the caliber of 12 or higher. You will immediately put these pieces in battery on the ramparts; the pieces of 6 will have to be placed on the flanks of the works, You will also put in battery about twenty carronades of 24, and will make work immediately with the preparation of the carts which may be necessary to others, The carronades are of a very -good service in the defense of places, and even[409]

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in many circumstances they are preferable to other guns.

I send Mr. Pailhou, one of my orderly officers, to Groningen, to have promptly sent all the artillery supplies that this place must furnish for the arming of Hamburg, and so that everything has arrived in this last place from the 10th to the 15th of July. This officer will correspond with you and report to you everything he sends. The first convoys that arrive will bring some of the powders and projectiles needed to supply the guns that you have right now. The other convoys will be composed in such a way that, whenever you get one, you will find yourself more at your disposal a dozen well stocked and well-equipped guns. These expeditions need to be done with great intelligence. You will make the necessary requisitions for relays of at least 200 horses to be established on the road to Groningen, six leagues in six leagues, in order to accelerate the arrival of the material that this place must send.

You will correspond with the commander of the artillery of Magdeburg, and will press the departure of the principal objects of artillery that this place must furnish to that of Hamburg.

According to the attached state, the guns in general are supplied only five hundred rounds each; but when this supply has arrived, I will take steps to increase it.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20158. - TO MR MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 21, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, you will find attached an extract of the English papers relative to Naples (1). You will send a copy to my minister at Naples to show him to Minister Gallo.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

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1) Excerpt from the *Morning Chronicle*, June 11, 1813. (Translation)

"We have learned with the greatest surprise, from the advice received yesterday from Sicily, on the 8th of April, that there appears to be some semblance of friendly arrangement and commerce between Lord William Bentinck and the Murat's ministers in Naples. It appears that a cessation of hostility between Sicily and Naples has been agreed, and a letter dated Messina

20159. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 21, 1813.

Cousin, show my discontent to Prince Eckmühl that he did not send the 5th Division all at once. Order him to send General Vandamme away with his corps all at once; my intention is that it arrives at the latest on the 11th in Magdeburg, in order to be able to enter on the 20th.

Order that the 5th Division meet in Wittenberg. General Sorbier will take steps to ensure that on the 20th of June the two batteries destined for this division will be at Wittenberg, so that on the 2nd of July she will leave for the 2nd Corps, according to the orders I will give. Put it back in front of me on the 26th.

Order General Vial to arrive at Wittenberg at the same time as the head of his troops, that is to say the battalions of the 11th and 24th light.

Put exactly on my book the movement of all these troops.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20160. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 21, 1813.

Cousin, show my discontent with the Duke of Bellune that he did not enter Krossen immediately, as he had orders; that it was only through these groping that he was able to give rise to the difficulties that have taken place, since the article of the armistice is positive; that he will no doubt have preferred to stay in a better country, but that he has executed my orders badly. Tell him to tell how many forces the enemy has on Krossen's side. Has the enemy a bridge over the Oder?

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

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relations had been reestablished with the islands situated in the bays of Gaeta and Naples, and there was the prospect of an advantageous trade with the continent through these establishments. It would be curious to see another French Marshal, who had risen to the throne, rank among our friends and allies. Does the Beauharnais mission in Milan have any connection with Murat's supposed defection? "[411]

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20161- TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN ..

Dresden, June 21, 1813.

Cousin, give orders to geographers to have the roads from Bautzen to Konigstein, Pirna, and Dresden recognized. Let me know also the best way from Konigstein to Bautzen and what needs to be done to put it fully in good condition. Have the same thing done for the road from Dresden to Pilnitz on the right bank, and show how this road links with that of Bautzen.

All these recognitions, with the recognition of the Elbe from the frontier of Bohemia to Dresden, must be made very quickly; it will be the first that will be presented to me. Have the borders of Bohemia also recognized from Dresden to Baireuth,

We must not, for these recognitions, raise on the ground, we will use existing maps; only memories will be made of the positions, the villages, the nature of the country, and communications of all kinds.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20162. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 21, 1813.

Cousin, order that the bridges thrown over the Saale be raised.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20163. - DECISION.

Dresden. June 21, 1813.

The Prince of Neuchâtel submits to the Emperor a letter from the Prince of Moskva, dated June 15, in Liegnitz, where it is said: "The enemy army does not respect the conditions of the armistice. Every day parties of Cossacks and Prussian hussars roam the neutral country. He even came to the gates of Liegnitz to remove food,	Make complaint of this by the commissioners of Neumarkt; that they say that accordingly our patrols will also enter the neutral country, if we do not order.

NAPOLEON.[412]

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defending with threats to the inhabitants of us nothing to supply, and telling them that the combined army was dissatisfied with the armistice. A party of Cossacks came two days ago to Steinau, to claim food that was in store. General Lauriston realizes that after the departure of the French from the city of Jauer, the Cossacks entered it and committed all sorts of disorders and vexations towards the inhabitants. "

From the original. Deposit of the war ..

20164. - TO GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE AMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 21, 1813.

I received your letter of June 12; I do not approve of its contents. Markets at 580 francs per cuirassier horse, 520 per dragon horse, and 420 per light cavalry horse, are inadmissible. The reserve condition of four-year-olds is even more unacceptable. There are horses all over Germany and at a much better price. I have just requested it in the 32nd Military Division and in Hamburg; I have increased the purchases of General Bourcier: finally, if necessary, I will also ask for it in his 31st division and in the 25th, where there are still many; I will like it in the interior of France. But markets at 580 francs would be a ruin. The four-year-old horses would serve no purpose, and they would have the disadvantage of destroying my hopes of going back to the next year. We must therefore cancel these markets. In general, everything the departments have provided is better than the suppliers have delivered.

Give me a general report on the cavalry men who are still to be mounted in France, by making known to me what will be mounted at Frankfort, which will be mounted by the new markets made by General Bourcier and by the requisitions of the 32nd military division.

Denmark seems disposed to provide me with 10,000 horses for a reasonable price.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[413]

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20165. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden. June 22, 1813.

My cousin, according to the description of the Count de Fontanes, entreat the sisters Villemain and Victorin Fabre to make the funeral oration, one of the Duke of Friuli and the other of the Duke of Istria. There is no need for priests.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by M. I Duke of Cambaceres.

20166. - TO PRINCE CAMBACÉRÈS,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden. June 22, 1813,

My cousin, you have sent me two plans of decree, one for the pension of the widow of the Duke of Friuli, the other to regulate the administration of the endowment passed on to her daughter. I paid the widow's pension at 50,000 francs; but this pension will be payable on this rate only in case the endowment will net more than 160,000 francs. If she returned less, the pension would be reduced to one-third of the net revenue, after the levy of a sum of 10,000 francs for the maintenance of the young duchess. This is a measure which must be taken for all great endowments, for these goods are more subject than others to vicissitudes, and it is right that pensions should follow the fate of the property upon which they are affected; otherwise it may happen that the pensions absorb income. I wish this system to be enshrined in a general regulation which you will have discussed at the Council of State, and which will have to apply even to the pensions which I have already granted on the great endowments.

As for the administration of the Links which compose the endowment transmitted to the child of the Duke of Frioul, the Intendant General of the Extraordinary Domain proposes the appointment of an accounting officer. I do not want one: I want a guardian. If Count Mole takes pleasure in this guardianship, he must be entrusted to it; if, as in fact he had no particular connection with the grand marshal, he desires not to be charged with it, it is necessary to designate someone who has been more intimately connected with the Duke of Frioul, like the Duke of Rovigo, or Count Lavallette.

In general, for people of this order, I want the guardianship, as to the endowments, to be subject to special rules.[414]

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I have the right of return on these kinds of property; those who enjoy it are feudatories; many are officers of my house: by all these circumstances, I reserve the right to appoint or have the tutor appointed to administer the endowment in case of minority. This is outside the rules of the Code Napoleon. Formerly the king named the guardians of the princes of his family or persons to whom he was interested. I am the birth guardian of all the grantees, and I have a direct interest in the conservation of endowments. The parents of the minor grantees, to whom the guardianship would be devolved in the ordinary rules of law, are on the contrary the natural enemies of the endowment; they have an interest in momentarily increasing income at the expense of capital; they may be tempted, for example, to neglect repairs, cut woods. Justice and propriety therefore require me to intervene for the appointment of the guardian; only it may be more suitable for me to have this appointment made by the council of the seal or by the imperial courts.

I want you to have a draft decree drafted on it, which will be discussed at the Council of State.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duc de Cambaceres.

20167. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 22, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, give orders to my minister at Naples, in the event of arresting our corsairs, and in which my flag would be degraded, to leave the city at once. Before retiring, he would have to hand over a brief to inform the Neapolitan cabinet that all his conduct was known to me, and that, if he made the slightest insult to my flag, he would repent one day.

Testify to Baron Durand that I am dissatisfied with his lack of energy and dignity.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives,

20168. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN ..

Dresden, June 22, 1813.

Cousin, tell the commissioners of Neumarkt what[415]

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arrived on the Leipzig side. You will order them that, having made known the armistice as early as the 8th to Major Lützow, he declared that he would make war on his behalf; that from the 8th to the 18th he continued to make contributions in Saxony, to arrest the trunks of Bavaria and Dresden, and to arrest the isolated men and the army employees whom he found on the line; that then troops were fought against him; only when he. learned of a day in Plauen that he decided to leave; that, having arrived near Leipzig, he was offered to take him to that city to restore what he had taken since the armistice, and that he then undertook an affair with a few Wurtemberg detachments; and that he hoped to be able to tumble; that finally the Prussians on the side of Dessau, pretending not to be of the army of Barclay de Tolly, do not wish to recognize the armistice. The commissioners must know this to direct their conduct, although the armistice expressly states that everyone will have entered the demarcation lines fixed before the 12th.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20169. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 22, 1813.

The engineer general will occupy the heights of Lilienstein by a covered palisaded road that will surround the rock on all sides. This covered way will be placed as best as possible, so as to have proper command over the campaign. Three arrows will be leaning against this covered path, one dangling to the left, and one flank seeing to Konigstein, the one on the right seeing the whole line; and a caponiere will be established, to reach the river, in order to have water there, behind the rock looking at Konigstein. We will build barracks for the commander, 300 men and food for a month, The footsteps, to climb the rock, will be improved so that 100 men of light infantry can climb and cover the rock of skirmishers,

Nine pieces above the 12 gauge and three howitzers will be placed in this book.

Two bridges will be established at the bottom of the Kœnigstein ramp and in the most direct direction of Lilienstein. Two ramps will be practiced in the hollow paths, so that they can not be seen[416]

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neither right nor left. An arrow will be established on the most favorable ridge which covers the two bridges, and four or five pieces of cannon will be placed there to beat the whole interior between Konigstein and Lilienstein and assure their communication. It will be about half way.

Thus, with 300 men in the Konigstein fort, 300 in the fortifications of Lilienstein, 200 at the bridgehead, total 800 men, this must withstand 50,000 men who would have thrown two bridges over the Elbe and would block it on all sides.

Thus the first object is to bind the height of Lilienstein with the place of Konigstein, not as a campaign operation, but as a siege, and thus to be, with few people, master of two bridges on the Elbe. With time, the king will put on masonry the three glasses, as well as the bridgehead, and by this means Konigstein will become of a real military interest. It will also be possible, with time, establish two bridges on stilts to be safe from ice and any event.

Second subject. To camp 10,000 men between Konigstein and Lilienstein, and to consider all this interval as a bridgehead which may contain all the rear-guard of the army, one or two glasses will be established to bind Lilienstein with the river, and we shall cover all that gorge by a covered palisaded way, having two places of arms and two outlets.

Thirdly. As my intention is to camp from 30 to 60,000 men on this plateau, we will recognize the entrenched camp which is naturally formed by the stream of Polenz and that of left. I shall be informed of the works to be done to ensure that these 30,000 men can not be attacked by 100,000; and, first of all, we shall seize the outlets of this camp, entrenched by a recess, which will defend the ramp, so that, even if there are only 2 to 3,000 men encamped in front of Konigstein, they are masters of descending upon the path of Neustadt and on the way to Stolpen and pass the parade, without the enemy can take advantage of localities to prevent it.

Tools, artillery and stores will be in Konigstein.

The enginner will repair the road from Konigstein to Neustadt, and from Konigstein to Stolpen, so that 30,000 to 60,000 men may reach Bautzen, Loebau, Dresden, or Bohemia.

Geographical engineers will recognize the road from Konigstein to Neustadt; they will raise and place on the map the road Rönigstein[417]

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at Stolpen, and also from Boenigstein in Bohemia by the left bank. All positions will be lifted.

It is my intention that from this camp we may pass, if necessary, on the left bank or on the right, and be always assured, leaving 10,000 men in the guard of his bridge, from whatever side the enemy comes.

Geographical engineers will also recognize all roads and gorges on the right and left banks of Koenigstein at Bautzen and the entire Bautzen road at Dresden, the whole forest covering Dresden, and on the left bank up to and including all the outlets from Bohemia arriving at Tœplitz and near Karlshad, This recognition will be linked to the recognition from Bohemia to Meissen, which will be part of the great recognition of the Elbe.

The Major-General shall send a copy of this order 1st) to the Minister of War of the King of Saxony; 2nd) to the general of emgineers; 3rd) to the general of artillery; 4th) Colonel Chief Geographical Engineers. It is necessary that all these topographic works, these fortifications of the genius and the artillery are finished before the 1st of July and are given to me at the latest the 2.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war ..

20170. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN ..

Dresden. June 22, 1813.

My cousin, the order I have just given for the Konigstein camp requires the following provisions:

Order General Boyeldieu to leave tomorrow at four o'clock in the morning, with a regiment of flankers, to take up position at the village of Konigstein, where this general will carry his headquarters.

Order the General of Engineering to designate a battalion commander, two engineers, and a company of sappers who will leave with General Royeldieu.

Order the general of artillery to set off a company of pontooners, with a chief of artillery battalion, to command the artillery.

The engineers of Fort Konigstein will be under the orders of the French general, and measures will be taken to build a bridge.[418]

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to draw the ramps and the bridgehead, as well as all the prescribed works.

As soon as the bridge is thrown, the regiment of flankers will camp on the right bank, and the second regiment of flankers will meet there. The camp will be established behind the height of Lilienstein; the general will then establish it on the right bank. Until the outlet can be established for the bridge in the indicated place, it will be possible to establish the bridge in the most suitable place at the current outlet. But, before the 1st of July, the bridge must be established in the place indicated, so that if 50,000 men surrounded the whole system, the bridge was safe from any insult.

The troops will be fed by the Konigstein stores. The artillery will be supplied by the artillery of Konigstein.

As soon as General Boyeldieu is on the right bank, he will communicate with the cantonments of the Horse Guards. The nearest quarter will always put two squadrons of service at the disposal of General Boyeldieu to illuminate the borders of Bohemia on both banks.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20171. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 22, 1813.

My Cousin, I had ordered the Duke of Reggio to have Lübben recognized and had entrenchments made at this place, which is an important point, in the middle of the marshes, and which can be easily cut off. He did not answer and did not make known whether my intentions were fulfilled,

NAPOLEON..

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20172. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.,

Dresden, June 22, 1813,

Cousin, reiterate the order to the Prince of Eckmühl that the 152nd regiment and the corps of General Vandanime, that is to say all that belongs to the 1st and 2nd division, with one of the two batteries on horseback , a reserve battery and the batteries of each division, General Bultus, the authorizing officer and the administrators of the 1st corps, were returned to Magdeburg and Wittenberg from the 3rd to the 9th of July.[419]

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Make known to the Prince of Eckmühl that in this situation he must not disseminate his troops. The whole Danish division, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, must be united on the left, near Lübeck. He must assemble the twenty battalions of the 3rd Division, formed in three brigades, under the orders of General Loison, around Hamburg, and the whole of the 50th Division at Hamburg, to hold garrison there, and finally he must bring near the Elbe. By this means, I can order him, according to the circumstances, to debouch, as soon as hostilities are commenced, with the twenty battalions of the 3rd division and ten battalions of the 50th, or a corps of 20,000 men. including the artillery and the cavalry, and that with 10,000 Danes, will make 30,000 men, to be on the left of Berlin, between Berlin and Stettin, while one would march on Berlin from different sides, He would then leave, to keep Hamburg, the depots of the 3rd, 50th, and 3rd *bis* divisions, so that they formed at least 10,000 men.

Tell him that in order to decide on this, I need to know the strength and position of the Swedes, the Hanseatic troops, and the other troops he has before him, as he has not sent me anything yet. above, I do not know what he has in mind, but it is important. I also need to have the exact state of the Danish troops.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20173. - NOTES.

Dresden. June 22, 1813 (1)

It must be assumed that I must be ready on July 20th.

I told the generals to take twenty days of biscuit, ten days of bread, and ten days of flour. My intention (which I did not tell them) is to order them, on the 5th of July, to send all the empty caissons to Dresden, to load them with flour. The army needs an average term of eight days to come to Dresden. They will leave Dresden on the 15th. They will be there before the break-up of the armistice.

Let me know, company by company, how many boxes there will be and if we will be ready to fill them with flour. Assuming that each corps has 120 wagons at 20 quintals, that will make 2,400 quintals, 240,000 rations, or 24,000 men for ten days; which is first and foremost an immense thing.

But if I had rice, my intention would be to compose the ration

1) Presumed date.[420]

as follows: 12 ounces of bread and 4 ounces of rice. Then, the caissons carrying 20 quintals, the caissons will carry 2,000 rations of a pound, and 120 boxes 240,000 pounds.

It is agreed that the soldier must carry four rations of bread weighing six pounds; I would like to increase by 6 pounds; 3 pounds of rice in a bag and 3 pounds of bread; it would be 96 ounces more. The 48 ounces of rice would last twelve days, and two more rations of bread at 24 ounces would make twelve days of food; this is attached to the resource of the localities. Thus the soldier would carry food for twelve days. 3 pounds of rice for 200,000 men make 6,000 quintals of rice. So I guess I have 120 caissons per corps. I have the 1st corps that would stock up in Magdeburg and Wittenberg without difficulty.

2nd, 11th, 7th, 3rd. 4th, 5th, 12th, 8th (eight army corps) will make 960 caissons. These 960 caissons, with 20 quintals each, will carry nearly 20,000 quintals, of which 14,000 are flour and 6,000 are rice.

Will the administration, on the 12th of July, have 6,000 quintals of rice and 14,000 of flour?

6,000 quintals of rice would make 600,000 pounds or 2,400,000 rations; 14,000 quintals of flour would make 1,400,000. Thus there would be 3,800,000 rations for 200,000 men for a fortnight.

These caissons, arrived at the corps, would be discharged of 7,000 quintals of rice which would be carried by the soldiers, and would take flour in the various localities.

Let me know when wheat and rye will be cut. It appears that the rye will be cut on July 15th; the 14,000 quintals should therefore be of wheat.

ABSTRACT. The needs of the army are of two kinds: to arrive until the 26th of July; 2 ° have twenty days of food; it would be from July 26 to August 15.

To live until July 25, it is good to have shops in Bunzlau, Gœrlitz and Bautzen. The stores would be better used if we cut the rye on July 10th.

For my twenty days for the army, I have just said that I would bring the caissons and give them 14,000 quintals of flour and 6,000 of rice.

So here I am, August 15. I will draw from Glogau 20,000 quintals; Assuming there are 30,000, there would be 10,000 or 900,000 rations, or 9,000 men for a hundred days, or 4,500 for two hundred days; that would be enough.[421]

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These 20,000 quintals would make 1,800,000 rations, or for 180,000 men for ten days. Glogau would supply ten days to the whole army.

By August 20, I must have as much rye on the premises as I want. Note, besides this, that Dresden could be counted as having to supply me for ten days. In this I do not rule on the amount that will be in Dresden, which will be small, but on the time I want to keep my line of operation.

The crews I am waiting for must be included in this calculation.

It would be necessary to have at Glosau enough to make 80,000 rations of bread a day; the caissons of the army would go there to fetch the bread; also order Glogau, in case of siege, to supply rice and wheat, in order to spare the flour.

If I decide to retreat behind the Elbe, the stores of Bautzen, Goerlitz and Bunzlau will be consumed in the passage.

Then, at Konigslcin, 60,000 rations a day would be required, and 120,000 rations in Dresden; which would always make 2,000 quintals consumed a day, and for ten days 20,000, or 40,000 quintals to arrive at August 20, GO, OOO quintals to arrive on September 1st.

I am expecting at Dresden 10,000 quintals of Magdeburg, 20,000 of Erfurt, 20,000 of the markets; total, 80,000. The country will always provide me with 500 quintals a day; which would make 15,000 a month; that is to say, 100,000 quintals insured, and, with rice, for 200,000 men.

I would like Daru to ask Daure to ask for wheat rather than rye.

Announce to the suppliers that after the harvest the rye will not be paid at the price.

Have 10,000 quintals at Goerlitz, Bautzen and Bunzlau, and 20,000 available at Glogau. That makes me 30,000 quintals, which, with a little rice, would make me 3,000,000 rations, or for 15,000 men for twenty days; which, with the resources of Dresden and the 20,000 quintals that would be carried away, would make 50,000 quintals, a very reasonable situation.

Daru will give orders to General Lapoype for the rations to be 16 ounces of bread, a ration of rice, one of vegetables.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.[422]

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20174. – TO Mr. LELORGNE D'IDEVILLE, SECRETARY INTERPRETER OF THE EMPEROR, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 22, 1813,

Your agency makes me very little service. You have not yet handed me a single report from Bohemia, where everyone enters so easily. You have not handed me any from Berlin, Mecklenburg, or Poland. You did not even know where the partisans were, who were, however, in Saxony itself. You reduce yourself to the translation of newspapers: it is something, but it is not enough. It seems that your business is not well organized, because you do not succeed in anything. In no campaign have I been so poorly served.

Polish Senator Wibicki is in Glogau, you must correspond with him; let him know that you are making money available for him to send agents to Poland, in order to have positive news.

The prefect of Posen is also in Dresden and can be used in the same way, as well as many other Poles.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20175. - INTERVIEW OF THE EMPEROR WITH COUNT DE METTERNICH (1)

JUNE 23, 1813.

"Here you are, Metternich! said Napoleon, seeing him; you're welcome! But, if you want peace, why come so late? We have already lost a month, and your mediation becomes almost hostile by being inactive. It seems that it is no longer appropriate for you to guarantee the integrity of the French Empire: well, that is; but why not tell me earlier? What did you tell me frankly when I arrived from Russia, by Bubna or more recently by Schwarzenberg? Perhaps I would have been in time to change my plans; perhaps I would not have gone back to campaign.

"By letting myself be exhausted by new efforts, you probably counted on less rapid events, These bold efforts, the victory crowned them I win two battles, my enemies weakened

1) There are two famous versions of this famous interview; that of Baron Fain, secretary of the Emperor, reproduces with the most truth the sentiments and the words of Napoleon I.[423]

are at the moment of returning from their illusions: suddenly you slip in the midst of us; you come to speak to me of armistice and mediation, you speak to them of alliance, and everything is confused. Without your disastrous intervention, peace between the allies and me would be made today.

"What have been the results of the armistice till now?" I know of none other than the two treatises of Reichenbach, which England has just obtained from Prussia and Russia. of a treaty with a third power, but you have M. de Stadion on the spot, Metternich, and you must be better informed than me in this respect.

"Agreed: Since Austria has taken the title of mediator, she is no longer on my side, she is no longer impartial, she is an enemy, you were about to declare when the victory of Lützen stopped you; seeing me still so formidable, you felt the need to increase your strength, and you wanted to save time.

"Today, your 200,000 men are ready, it is Schwarzenberg who commands them, he reunites them at this moment, here, there, behind the curtain of the mountains of Bohemia, and because you think you are in a state of to dictate the law, you come to find me, the law, and why do you want to dictate it only to me? I am no longer the one you defended yesterday, if you are a mediator, why at least not hold the balance equal?

"I have guessed you, Metternich: your cabinet wants to take advantage of my embarrassments, and increase them as much as possible, to recover all or part of what he lost.The big question for you is whether you can ransom me without to fight, or if you must decide to rank with my enemies, you do not yet know which of the two parties should offer you the most advantages, and perhaps you come here only to better you Well, let's see, let's treat, I'll agree, what do you want to do?"

This attack was lively. M. de Metternich throws himself to the cross with a paraphernalia full of diplomatic phrases. The only advantage that the Emperor his master is jealous of acquiring is the influence which would communicate to the cabinets of Europe the spirit of moderation, the respect for the rights and the possessions of the independent states which animate it. himself. Austria wishes to establish an order of things which, by a wise division of forces, places the guarantee of peace under the aegis of an association of independent States.

Speak clearer, said the Emperor, interrupting him, and come to[424]

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but do not forget that I am a soldier who knows better than to bend. I offered you Illyria to remain neutral; does it suit you? My army is good enough to bring the Russians and Prussians to their senses, and your neutrality is all I ask."

"Ah, sire," resumed M. de Melternich, "why should your majesty remain alone in this struggle, why should it not double its strength, you may, sire, for it is up to you alone to Yes, things are so that we can not remain neutral, we must be for you or against you. "

At these words the tone of the conversation falters; the Emperor leads M. de Metternich into the card-room. After a rather long interval, the Emperor's voice rises again. "What! not only Illyria, but half of Italy and the return of the Pope to Rome! and Poland, and the abandonment of Spain! and Holland, and the Confederation of the Rhine, and Switzerland! So that's what you call the spirit of moderation that drives you! You only think of taking advantage of every opportunity; you are only busy carrying your alliance from one camp to another, to always be on the side where the divisions are made, and you come to speak to me of your respect for the rights of the independent states! By the way, you want Italy, Russia wants Poland, Sweden wants Norway, Prussia wants Saxony, and England wants Holland and Belgium. In a word, peace is only a pretext: you all aspire to the dismemberment of the French Empire! And to crown such an undertaking, Austria believes that it is enough for her to declare herself! You claim here with a feather line to bring down the ramparts of Danzig, Küstrin, Glogau, Magdeburg, Wesel, Mainz, Antwerp, Alexandria, Mantua, all the most important places. strong of Europe, whose keys I could only obtain by victories! And I, docile to your policy, I would have to evacuate Europe, of which I still occupy half, bring my legions the crook in the air behind the Rhine, the Alps and the Pyrenees, and, subscribing to a treaty which would be nothing but a vast capitulation, to give myself like a fool to my enemies, and to defer to a dubious future for the generosity of those I am now the victor! And that's when my flags

they still float in the mouths of the Vistula, and on the banks of the Oder, when my triumphant army is at the gates of Berlin and Breslau, when in my person I am here the head of three hundred thousand men, than Austria, without firing, without even firing[425]

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the sword, flatters me to subscribe to such conditions! Without pulling the sword! this pretension is an outrage! And it's my stepfather who hosts such a project! it is he who sends you! In what attitude does he want to place me in the presence of the French people? He deceives himself strangely if he believes that a mutilated throne may be in France a refuge for his daughter and his grandson! Ah! Metternich, how much has England given you to decide to play this role against me?"

At these words, which can no longer be restrained, M. de Metternich has changed color; a profound silence succeeds, and we continue to stride. The Emperor's hat has fallen to the ground; we pass and pass several times before. In any other situation M. de Metternich hastened to raise it; the Emperor picks him up himself.

On both sides there is some time to recover.

Napoleon, resuming the conversation with more coolness, declares that he does not yet despair of peace, if Austria will at last listen to her true interests. He insists that the congress be convened, and formally demands that, in the event of hostilities recommencing, the negotiations should not be interrupted, so that this door at least remains open to the reconciliation of the people.

In dismissing M. de Metternich, the Emperor is careful to tell him that the cession of Illyria is not his last word.

Extract from the Manuscript of 1813, by Baron Fain.

20176. - TO MARSHAL SOULT, DUKE OF DALMATIA, COMMANDING THE OLD GUARD, TO DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 23, 1813.

Order General Roguet to have all the boats taken from Pirna to the Bohemian frontier, and to have a large number of easels made for the construction of his bridge; the Elbe being very narrow near Koenigstein, it will be enough for eight or ten boats. Recommend that the bridge be established tomorrow.

According to the minute. Archive, of the Empire.[426]

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20177. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 23, 1813.

Give me the state of the military crews with their distribution.

See the authorizing officer in charge of this service, and give me a draft order for all the detached companies to join their battalions.

Write to all the marshals and generals commanding the corps d'armee, to let them know that the general depot of the military equipages is established at Dresden, and that they must, without any delay, direct on Dresden all the sails to be repaired, the injured horses, harnesses available and men without horses.

Order that General Picard and all the military crews be under the superior orders of General Belliard. General Picard will always follow the headquarters. All the orders of roll that will give to the crews will be targeted by the General Belliard.

You will order General Belliard to review all the military crews and see their cargo, and before making any movement, take your orders to take your own, so as to be certain that these movements are consistent with my intentions.

The depot established in Dresden will be commanded by a major or battalion commander, and will be under the command of General Fresia. There will also be a workers' lieutenant to direct the repairs of the wagons. Let me know the composition of the staff of the military crews. Write tonight, by the courier, to the commanders and the organizers of the corps, so that they send forth immediately to Dresden all that they must send to the depot. General Durosnel will designate the location for this park, where will be established forges and a repair shop for wagons and harnesses.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20178. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 24, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, you will find attached the organization that I want to give to Prince Poniatowski's corps. Bring me to sign tomorrow morning at sunrise, after asking him[427]

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observations. You will see that my intention is not to return to what has been done. I organized by decree the corps of General Dombrowski, as well as a regiment of the Vistula and another Polish regiment under No. 4, formed of the 4th, 7th and 9th regiments. These regiments were in the pay of France, and it will be easy to restore their accounts, without disturbing anything I have decreed.

I therefore organized all the troops arrived with Prince Poniatowski into five regiments of infantry and six regiments of cavalry, each regiment of eight companies according to the French formation. I leave each regiment of cavalry its administration, but the five regiments of infantry, forming ten battalions, will have only one administration. There are regiments in France that have more than ten battalions. Artillery and sappers will have only one administration; that of the gendarmerie company will be joined to the regiment of cuirassiers, where that company will count as a squadron.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

20179. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 24, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Padua, that his letter to M. de Voronzof is much too long, that he seems to be justifying himself; that he is not accountable to this general. His letter is even badly made: he had to say that Lützow had not recognized the armistice; that he continued to remove letters, raise contributions, etc .; that he had attacked a detachment of 300 men whom he thought were not supported, and that was the cause of what had happened to him. Write to him that it is also unfortunate that the parliamentarian has reached Leipzig; he was not to cross the Elbe; he was to be arrested at the outposts of Dessau; that the 5th division, or second of the 2nd corps, must have arrived on the Elbe; that if he had anything to fear, he could use it; that there are also at Wittenberg five battalions of the first division, which makes seventeen battalions of French infantry with two batteries,

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[428]

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20180. - TO MARSCHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden. June 24, 1813.

Cousin, I received your letter of June 21st. You do not let me know how much rice you have found in Hamburg. We buy here for the army at 68 francs the quintal, Send us as much as possible, We have already experienced the best effects; the distributions that took place have completely stopped the diarrhea, which began to threaten the army,

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

20181. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL,
COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG,

Dresden, June 24, 1813.

My cousin, I ordered the director-general of the army administration to send an iron mill to Hamburg, so that you could immediately build some fifty in Hamburg. . The workers must not fail, I give orders; at the same time, to the Minister of War to send you fifty. Each of these mills can make 5 quintals a day; for the hundred, that's 500 quintals of flour; 500 quintals of flour make 500,000 rations, that is to say the double of what the garrison will need, Have fifty of these mills put in a workshop and fifty in another, and work without interruption to grind,

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marshal Princess Eckmühl.

20182. - TO COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 25, 1813,

Count Daru, the major-general gives orders for 4,000 quintals of flour to be sent to Glogau and placed on the wagons of the 17th battalion of military crews, which belong to the headquarters. Let them go as soon as possible, so that they are back from the 10th to the 12th and can leave again to follow the movement of the army,

The Major General also orders the Duke of Treviso to[429]

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to pour into Glogau all the flours and biscuits he would have as a result of his army corps, and to send his carriages to Dresden to take care of rice, flour and biscuit.

The Duke of Dalmatia receives orders to supply 200 wagons carrying 4,000 quintals, to be directed to Glogau. They have to start tomorrow, and continue on the 27th and the 28th, so that all of this is back from the 10th to the 12th.

The Major General gives orders to all the corps to send the greater part of their military crews, and all that they may have of cars, to load here rice and flour which they will transport to the central stores, Au As soon as they arrive, they will go to the parade, and you will take my orders.

The Duke of Reggio has orders to send his carriages to Torgau and Wittenberg to take care of flour and rice from Magdeburg.

It is also necessary that 4,000 quintals of flour be sent from Magdeburg to Glogau. Wagons can be bought in the country. They will follow the left bank as far as Wittenberg, where they will cross the bridge, and from there they will go straight on to Glogau.

By this means we would have 12,000 quintals at Glogau, which, with the 12,000 quintals there and the 20,000 quintals, would make 11,000 quintals.

Order that 50,000 rations of biscuits be made at Bunzlau; the Duke of Ragusa could take charge of it; let them do the same at Goerlitz and Bautzen. This biscuit is meant to stay in stores to serve on extraordinary occasions. It will be necessary that, on the 21st of July, 100,000 rations of biscuit be maintained in each of these places, and that on the 15th of July, biscuit bread be made, so that on the 26th, in each of these places, 100,000 rations.

Order that Glogau be made of biscuit to supplement, with what exists there, 500,000 rations.

Give orders for Magdeburg to keep at his disposal or General Vandamme 100,000 rations of biscuit, taken from the seat, and that there be for July 25, 60,000 rations of bisque bread, also at the disposal of General Vandamme.

Give orders to Dresden to have, on July 20, 500,000 rations of biscuit, including what would come from Erfurt, and that one will have, on the morning of the 20th, 200,000 rations of biscuit bread that can last twenty days. This supply will be maintained so that all convoys directed to the army are all[430]

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biscuit bread, and that it may be given for four days to the troops which will leave Dresden, and which will amount to more than 30,000 men.

You will share these provisions with the Major General.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20183, - TO THE GENERAL COUNTY DUROSNEL,
GOVERNOR OF DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 25, 1813.

I am informed that all the horses bought here cost 20 francs more than they must cost, because of the sums given to receive them, All these sums are thus lost for me, Take all the measures of police to be able to me to shed light on those things so harmful to my service and on such a shameful affair.

According to the minute. Archive of the Empire.

20184, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden. June 25, 1813.

Mills are always a problem. I want you to order that ten of these mills be placed in the same workshop, and that you appoint a commission to attend the experiments. Each of these mills grinds 5 quintals a day, working day and night, and this work will be continued for a month. A record of accidents will be kept, and the state of these mills will be ascertained at the end of the month. It is pretended that after three days of nut work it breaks, and that then they are no longer of any use.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20185. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 25, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, I asked you to send me a booklet of the infantry corps on June 15 on the model of the booklet you sent me on March 30.

I also wish to have a state on the same principle for artillery and engineering, so that I can see where the battalions of the train are, where are their horses, where are their depots.[431]

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I also want to find all the information I need on horse artillery, miners, sappers. Take care that on each page there are notes that make me aware of the organization and avoid research.

I also want to find what is available without destination.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

20186 - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADNINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 25, 1813.

Count de Cessac, I receive your letter of June 20th. I do not know what it is that the light caisson No. 2, coupled two horses. Experience seems to have proved in favor of No. 2 caissons, as the Guard has had them done, and everyone gives them preference over all other kinds of caisson. One would, however, wish them to be a little strengthened, so that there would be no inconvenience in loading them with two thousand; but this operation should not increase the weight by more than 80 pounds. We could also strengthen these boxes by a good choice of materials, They easily hold four barrels of flour 450 pounds each, and more a bag; they contain more easily 20 quintals of bagged flour: each horse only lags 5 quintals. One of the drivers is on horseback and the other sits as a coachman,

We prefer these cars to caisson in the Comtoise. They have two horses and only carry 4 quintals; each horse only lags about 2 quintals. Two caisson in the Comtoise have the inconvenience of having two men, two caisson, four horses, and not half of what a caisson carries; which greatly increases the number of convoys on the roads. If one of the horses hitching a wagon to the Comtoise is lost, the other can not cope well, while the caissons with four horses can lose a horse. or two horses, and even a man, and go again. It is therefore no longer necessary to build wagon in the Comtoise, and henceforth the parks of Sampigny and Plaisance must establish only No. 2 caissons conforming to those of the Guard, but reinforced in their main parts and which can weigh for this purpose 80 pounds. moreover, so that they can easily carry 20 quintals. As for the wagons in the Comtoise which exist, it is necessary, 1st), to have them covered, as was done at Metz for the companies of the 17th Battalion; (2) the driver is on horseback instead of being a driver.[432]

Give orders to build a number of caissons No. 2 in Sampigny.

As we recognize that the casing of old model can also serve without inconvenience, we will use it as long as we have some.

You will receive a decree by which I order the nine companies to be organized and completed in horses and wagons. These nine companies will all have boxes of Model No. 2; it will be 40 crates per company and 360 for the nine companies. You will be able to use there all the wagons of old model which you have, I believe, with Sampigny and with Plaisance.

You must also have at Sampigny models No. 2. I think that half of the wagons you need exists; the other half will be made at Sampigny and Plaisance parks during July, August and September.

These nine companies will be destined, namely: two to the observation corps of Italy, four to the observation corps of Bavaria, three will receive a destination later, according to the needs of the service, and will be used to repair the pearls that would have been made . The decree I have just adopted on military crews contains all these provisions.

From each depot of military crews, leave 20 well-dressed and well-equipped men. As they come on foot, give them shoes for their walk. Direct them to the Dresden depot. Also send some master craftsmen to supervise the workshop where I order that we make some wagons of model n ° 2.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20187. - IN THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 28, 1813.

My Cousin, it is necessary that you gather. the general commanding the artillery, the general commanding the genie, and Count Daru, to strip and compare all the states received from Gdansk, so as to distinguish the false states from the real ones, and to make a copy of them, according to which they concern their attributions. You will also send to the ministers of war and the administration of war those who concern them. I agree that the guns at Danzig, and so on, are known to the artillery office.

You will order the officer who went to Danzig to report[433]

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in writing what he said about General Rapp to me and what he said to him. You will present me this report, and you will add it to Danzig's papers.

Report on all these places, and have it linked with the states of all that was there at the time of the armistice. You will give me this as a booklet that will serve as a basis for me depending on the circumstances.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20188. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 28, 1813

Cousin, write to General Castex that it is indispensable that he should have the necessary number of columns, commanded by intelligent officers, formed in order to go in search of Prussian partisans, and to arrest them wherever they meet them.

Testify my displeasure to the Duke of Padua that the partisan Columbus is not yet taken, and that he does not announce the arrest of the remains of the Lützow band.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20189. - TO MARSCHAL SOULT, DUKE OF DALMATIA, COMMANDING THE OLD GUARD, TO DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 28, 1813.

Order General Boguet to take advantage of the leisure he has to go to reconnoiter all the outlets of the Roenigstein camp, that is to say, those of Neustadt towards the Bohemian frontier, on the right bank and towards the same frontier, on the bank. on the left, following the Elbe, as well as the various outlets which from the camp end on the great Bohemian road to Dresden. He will make a sketch of all this by one of his aides-de-camp; but he must himself recognize these outlets, as well as all military positions, so that he is well aware of this whole country.

From the minute, Archive of the Empire.[434]

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20190. - TO GENERAL LEBRUN, DUKE OF PLAISANCE, EMPEROR'S CAMP AIDE, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 28, 1813.

The Duke de Plaisance, the Major-General gives you the order to inspect the 1st and 2nd corps of cavalry and the cavalry of the corps d'armee. You will begin with that of the Duke of Reggio, and you will first make known to me what concerns his person. Is he restored? Would he be able to return to the field? How are his generals of division, and where are they trolling? What are his brigade generals? You will let me know the situation of your whole body, but only about it, and without reviewing it, you will only pass that of the cavalry. So you will give me an account of the situation of his artillery infantry, the military crews, the stores and the hospitals, as well as all the news that can circulate in the body or in the country, in a word of all that can interested. You will go as far as Baruth to see the line of the outposts and take information on the road to Berlin and what is going on there.

You will do the same for all other corps. You will visit the hospitals and you will make known to the commissioners of the wars that all the amputees and men wounded too badly to be able to serve again must be evacuated on Dresden.

Passing near Glogau, you will enter this place, you will see everything in detail, and you will report it to me.

You will address to the major general all that is related to your official mission, but you will address me directly all the other information and all that would not be of this mission.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the General Duke of Plaisance.

20191. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS, GOVERNOR OF MAGDEBURG.

Dresden. June 28, 1813.

Count Lernarois, I want you to write to me every day to learn all about your command, especially all the batteries that the director of the park has available, all the boats that speak for Dresden laden with subsistence, and those who come from Hamburg in replacement.

In Magdeburg there were 74,000 quintals of corn for the siege supply: I ordered that 20,000 be left, so that the[435]

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the place did not remain completely unscathed; there will therefore be available 54,000 quintals. I ordered that of these 54,000 quintals, 40,000 should be directed to Dresden, and that 14,000 should remain at Magdeburg at the disposal of the army. This wheat, as it is, can serve no purpose; be sure to have it converted as quickly as possible into flour and put it in bags. 50,000 quintals are to come from Hamburg and 50,000 quintals from the 32nd division, which will be 100,000 quintals. Match with the Prince of Eckmühl, so that you can ensure your replacements.

There were 1,200 horned animals in Magdeburg; I ordered them to be sent to Dresden; but you will always have a large amount of salted meat. Let me know what quantity you have, and, if circumstances put you in the case of being besieged, in a few days you would make a raid twenty leagues round, which would replace you the 200 horned beasts that have just been removed. Moreover, 7,000 oxen must be directed from the 32nd Division. Correspond with the Prince of Eckmühl to know their arrival and announce it to me.

Magdeburg has 1,200 quintals of rice. I asked that this rice was sent by Dresden; you will have it replaced by such a quantity drawn from Hamburg.

You must send powder, coins, and bullets to Hamburg; your commander The artillery must have the stall. I wish you to press these dispatches so that, before the 15th of July, Hamburg will be in a position to defend himself. General Haxo drew a bridgehead and a place at Werben; this place will naturally defend Magdeburg. Let me know if it is possible to arm this place and put it in a state of defense by July 25th. In this case, you will put a commander, an artillery officer, and place some pieces of cannon. The command from Dessau to Werben on the left bank depends on Magdeburg.

Take a tour of the hospitals. Have all the amputees, all the absolutely servicemen, and all the sick and wounded enemy prisoners sent back to Wesel. Organize yourself to receive 3,000 patients.

It is said that there is an abbey out of the city; make it surround with palisades, and have it covered with a little arrow, so that it may be protected from any attack by the light troops. I have seen with difficulty, last month, that Cossacks had approached a league from the city. Make establish, one league around the city, on all roads, three or four houses where fifty men are safe[436]

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any attack of light cavalry: a retrenchment and a simple palisade will suffice; have a piece of 3 put on it if necessary. These entrenchments, distant 8 to 900 toises from each other, will always make you master of the enemy, a league from the city. General Haxo realized that the Tangermünde post was good enough to put about 200 men under cover of the enemy's light troops: have this checked.

I would like the cavalry depot to go from Hanover to Magdeburg; but it is alleged the lack of stables. Could not you ask for planks, and build stables for 2,000 horses in barracks? If you can do this work in eight days, I will order General Bourcier to go to Magdeburg, which would be very advantageous for you, since it would give you a reinforcement of 3 to 4,000 men on foot and a fund of 2,000 horses.

Send me the map of the surroundings a league from Magdeburg, on both banks, where are indicated the houses you have removed, so that I can see if you have understood my intention. The great force of the enemy consisting of light cavalry is by multiplying the palisades that can be opposed. You must constantly order all the posts you will hold on the left bank to defend the passage from surrounding yourself immediately with palisades: the trees are not lacking in this country. I practiced this method, in the last campaign, until Moscow and I did not have a single post of 50 men that 10,000 Cossacks have started, Indicate me also, on the map, the place where you place your stables.

You will receive orders from the Major General by which I have definitively prescribed the provisions which I have just indicated to you.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Count Lemarois.

20192. - NOTE ON THE DEFENSE OF DRESDEN.

Dresden. June 28, 1813.

The enclosure of the suburbs of Dresden is 3,000 toises; consequently, 30,000 palisades are required, which, at 150 wagons a day, can be transported in ten days.

3,000 toises make fifteen fronts or sixteen prominences, spaced at 200 toises, which is not far distant. To occupy these projections by spectacles of 80 toises of development, it would take 200 men a day, during ten days, to execute each one, and consequently 3,200 workers for the sixteen glasses.[437]

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By calculating four workers for ten days to make a current height of glacis, that makes 12,000 workers for 3,000 fathoms of glacis for ten days; but by deepening the quay two feet below the country, it may be calculated that it will take half as many laborers.

Assuming now that a continuous bastional enclosure is adopted, 800 men would finish a front in ten days: consequently the fifteen fronts would be executed in ten days by 12,000 men. It would also take 12,000 men for ten days to run a covered path all around; which would make 24,000 workers a day, for ten days, for the bastioned enclosure and its covered way, or 8,000 workers for thirty days.

General Rogniat will present me a project on these ideas. By occupying the projections by sixteen well-palisaded spectacles in the ditch and at the throat, and by arming each telescope with three pieces of cannon, the shot of which would be lost at half-range, we should have a good defense.

I do not think that these glasses offer me enough safety; it would take more riders, which can be done over time. We could still draw four or five crowns.

If one formed an enclosure with only a palisade which would trace a masterful bastioned line, one would occupy the projections with glasses at 50 toises from the palisade, and, as the length of the telescope would also be 50 toises, one would distance, by this means the enemy 100 fathoms from the palisade, which would be less heavily beaten by the cannon. These glasses would be flanked bastion and flanking each other; we could then unite them by a ditch, the throat would be palisaded, the ditch milled, and they would communicate with the palisade back by line good caponier. I would like to be able to place all the artillery of the sixteen glasses in two or three , if needed; I know that the enemy, by assembling twenty to twenty-five pieces of cannon and as many howitzers for a single telescope, will crush it; because, in fact of artillery, it is the one who unites the most that crushes his adversary; it is therefore necessary to be able to gather an artillery equal to his on the point attacked. For this it is necessary: (1st) that the ground of glasses be continuous and that there are everywhere platforms; 2nd) that the arrangement of the caponiers is such that we can remove the pieces and place them on the glasses attacked, without the enemy noticing, so that it does not change attack. If the face and the side of the glasses are 50 toises, it will be 100 toises for each telescope, and therefore room for thirty-five[438]

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artillery pieces. These guns, firing at cover against an enemy in the open, will protect the work from a gun attack.

All this should be finished and palisaded on July 25th. The engineers would have the means of executing the 8th battalion of naval workers.

It will be established with each telescope a powder magazine, in order to have no need of caissons.

One could, afterwards, add to the salient of the palisade enclosure riders who would dominate the glasses. It would be an extra that would increase the strength of the camp.

I would like the caponiers I set up to communicate at the palisade to serve as a barbette for firing cannon, either on one side or the other.

Riders established at the palisade salient must be traced with the double object of beating the glasses, in order to oblige the enemy to lodge there methodically, and to beat the ground in front of the palisade, so that the enemy not be able to force it, and be able to stand behind, under the protection of the cavalry gun.

All this finished, it seems obvious that one could look upon Dresden as a stronghold, not by abandoning the Elbe, but as long as the army is in front of this river. There would be no light troops, nor cavalry corps, nor enemy parties that could force these fortifications. I shall then have a place to receive the depots, the hospitals, the shops, the carriages of every kind; for it must not be less than an enclosure of 4 to 5,000 fathoms to serve as a depot for an army like mine.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

20193. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden. June 28, 1813.

I received your letter of May 19, engineering office. I do not know what the place of Corte can serve; but the place of Calvi is more important. There is in Ajaccio only a bad citadel. So I think that it is enough to maintain in Ajaccio and Calvi the line of the houses as it is, while also preserving the esplanade of the fort Monzillo. As for Corte, we must no longer maintain this place: it is a useless expense. Calvi, on the contrary, is of some importance, the whole city being fortified and in a condition to support a siege.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[439]

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20194. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN.

Dresden, June 28, 1813.

My son, I receive your letter of the 22th, by the courier who has just been established with Milan. Count Mellernich has just arrived here. We will see if the congress can meet in Prague; but all probabilities appear in the war.

NAPOLEON.

From the known copy. From S. A.I. the Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20195. - TO THE PRINCESS THERESE,
ARCHIDUCHESSE OF AUSTRIA, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 28, 1813.

My Cousin, I receive from Paris an engraving of Isabey's miniature representing the Empress Marie-Louise, whom I wanted to bring to you myself; but I get in a wagon to race, and I do not want to postpone it. The work seems to me to resemble and very well done. I am a witness that the person he represents is so attached to you that you would be ungrateful if this gift did not please you.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20196. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 29, 1813.

Count Daru, you will give orders to defend the transport markets at Mainz and for transport at Wesel; competition from the artillery and the administration makes them too expensive. There is another way to use, that of requisitions. It is necessary to establish three lines of transport from Mainz to Dresden: the first line will pass by Fulde, Erfurt, Iena and Gera; the second line will go through Würzburg, Bamberg and Chemnitz; the third line will pass through Frankfurt, Kassel and Leipzig. These three lines will be used on even days for the service of the administration, and on odd days for the artillery service. We will thus have 150 wagon a day, which, at the rate of 10 quintals per wagon, makes 45,000 quintals a month; sufficient quantity for the needs of the army: 22,000 quintals and a half for the administration and 22,000 and a half for the artillery.

Both services will replace each other to profile[440]

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relay. On extraordinary occasions, the regencies will be notified four days in advance. There will be an artillery officer and a commissioner of war to regulate and monitor everything relating to the loading. The wagon would bring back the wounded and the sick, and they would be transported to Mainz.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20197. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, June 29, 1813.

You have received the decree I took for the arming of Erfurt.

It is very important that this armament is complete before August 1st. Get started without delay what must provide Mainz and Strasbourg. Send to Erfurt a passable artillery officer. I ordered the establishment of a small arsenal of repair in Erfurt; it would be necessary to put a capable man at the head. Supplies of wood must be obtained by requisition, and the equipment must be kept in good condition.

I think it is necessary that the first inspector of engineers, after having done his work in Hamburg, come to visit Erfurt; he will have everything I have dictated on this place, and he will order what his zeal and knowledge of his profession will inspire him to fulfill my intentions.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20198. - TO FRANÇOIS 1st, EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN VIENNA.

Dresden, June 30, 1813.

My dear Brother and dear Father-in-law, Count Metternich has handed me your Majesty's letter. I desire peace. If the Russians are as moderate as me, it will be done soon. If, on the contrary, they wish to carry me to concessions which my honor and the interests of my allies repulse, they will succeed in nothing. Your Majesty knows the feelings I feel for him; I hope that it will not be dragged into a war which would be the misfortune of his States, and increase the evils of the world.

In any event, Your Majesty must never doubt the esteem and friendship with which I am, Sir and[441]

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very dear Father-in-law, of your Imperial Majesty, the good Brother and son-in-law.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20199. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 30, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, you may reply to M. Alquier that I have no objection to guaranteeing the loan of Denmark, whether in Hamburg or Holland, or in Paris, or in any other country.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20200.-TO MADAME DUROC, DUCHESS OF FRIOUL, TO PARIS.

Dresden, June 30, 1813.

Madam Duchess of Friuli, I received your letter of June 19th. You know how much I was distressed by the loss of the grand marshal. His daughter can be assured of my constant protection. I gave him a testimony by substituting for him the duchy of Friuli, and taking care of his interests. You can, on your side, count on all my affection and the desire I have to give you, under all circumstances, proofs of my interest in the grand marshal's family.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20201. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, June 30, 1813.

Cousin, let General Bertrand know that I approve of the organization of the bourgeois guard of Leipzig; but that a battalion of 2,000 men will be too strong; that it would have been better to make three, each of 650 men, but that, if the organization is done, we must maintain what has been done; that from the 1st of July, it is necessary that the guard and the police of the city be made by the bourgeois guard, and that the French troops have more to do than the service of their barracks, so that these troops coming from there, we do not notice anything.[442]

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Write to General Lauer that he must pay the pay to all the soldiers at Torgau.

Order the Governor of Glogau to place posts at a league from Glogau, and, if necessary, to repel the force by force.

Write to General Lapoype that he must not evacuate anything he possesses; that the enemy kept Krosseu, that he was not to occupy; that, moreover, the enclave in question does not belong to Prussia, but to the Confederation of the Rhine; that these discussions should be referred to the respective commissioners, and that if the enemy resorted to force, force would have to be repulsed.

Write to General Lauriston that all that is published of the Emperor of Austria is false.

Answer to the commissioners of Neumarkt that they must oppose the drawing of any man or any kind of food from the neutral part.

Answer to these same commissioners that I put no obstacle to the fair of Breslau, provided that the note of all the transports which will arrive there is taken, and that the plenipotentiaries of the enemy make the commitment that none of these transports will be retained for the service of the allies and that all will be returned.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20202. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden, June 30, 1813.

My Cousin, I receive even letter of June 26. I am pleased to see that you have sent four artillery batteries and a reserve battery with General Vandamme. The two horse artillery batteries are on their way from Wesel to join you. I order that we organize a new reserve battery in Wesel as soon as possible for you. The 6th *bis* division will, on the 10th of July, meet at Wesel; already several battalions have arrived there; it is to any event a reserve which can be useful to you.

I have attached Adjutant Commander Fernig to General Hogendorp; he will appear on the states as adjutant commander employed in the 50th division. It is very important that you have: two artillery batteries for the 3rd division, sixteen pieces; a battery for the 50th division, eight pieces; a horse battery of your army corps,[443]

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six pieces; one on horseback for the 50th division, six pieces; one of reserve, eight pieces; total, forty-four pieces.

Your army corps will therefore have three reserve batteries, namely: one with General Vandamme and one that General Lemarois directed on Magdeburg; which will be two for General Vandamme. I order you to form the third in Hamburg, drawing the material from Groningen. Send the necessary orders to the order officer I have in this place. You will use the horses of the country. Thus there will be in Hamburg two horse batteries, three division batteries and a reserve battery.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess of Eckmühl.

20203. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden. June 30, 1813.

Cousin, I'm getting your letter of June 27th. I ordered M. Bourrienne to give a positive order to cease all correspondence with Hamburg. My order will be served by July 5th. If, after that time, he wrote again, I want you to let me know, so that I can arrest him. Try to discover all the cheats of this wretch, so that I can make him return what does not belong to him.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20204. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden. June 30, 1813.

I receive your letter of June 23rd. You can calculate that today I have 15,000 men who do not have guns; it is therefore 15,000 men that I have less. So I need guns first and foremost. You will see, by the orders I have given, that I have forbidden the artillery of Mainz from any transport market, and that I have organized three relay lines by requisition of Mainz at Dresden, one by Wurzburg. the other by Erfurt and the third by Cassel. The transport costs will be paid every day, and in this way will only come back to me at 10 or 12 francs per quintal. It is in Dresden that I need guns, rather than in Erfurt. I asked the Duke of Valmy to send me all the rifles of dragoons and generally all he[444]

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could. If you could send guns from either Naarden or Wesel to Magdeuurg, they would also be transported there. I have 60,000 guns in Gdansk, but for the moment it can not serve me. According to the minute. Empire Archives,

20205. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECREED,
MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden. June 30, 1813,

Duke Decres, you will receive a decree that I took for the establishment of a construction site on the Elbe. I am not master of not establishing this project; Bohemia, Prussia, Saxony, and all the other states of Germany, whose rivers flow into the Elbe, have woods, irons, and hemp, and it is indispensable that I give them this outlet. The establishment of an arsenal of construction in the Elbe is therefore a measure both maritime and political; it is a charge attached to the sovereignty of the countries between the Elbe and the Rhine, just as the arsenal of construction of Venice is a charge attached to the possession of the Illyrian provinces and the banks of the Brenta, Isonzo and Tagliamento. Give orders to deal with this with the greatest activity.

You know that I have taken steps to make Hamburg a first class place, and that the work is so advanced that from the first days of August 15,000 men will be able to shut themselves up and support a long siege. As soon as the commission has stopped its plans and they have been sent to me, I will approve them and I will order the beginning of the works. I will also be able to order you to examine and check everything yourself. The construction of twelve ships in the Elbe will be economical and will be part of this vast plan of war against England. I suppose that in the course of a year the fortifications will be sufficiently advanced to protect the maritime establishments; so that on the 1st of July, 1814, we can establish the holds and put the vessels on the site. So, if peace with England were to take place in a few years, she would find us with an already trained squadron in the Elbe. Discuss this with Admiral Rosily and engineer Beautemps-Beaupré, and give all their necessary instructions to facilitate their mission.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.[445]

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20206. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden. July 1, 1813,

My Cousin, the Major General will let you know the new formation I gave to the army. I created a 13th corps, of which I gave you command. I intend this corps to defend the 32nd division. You will have under your orders the two French divisions of the 13th corps, the Danish division and the 50th division; which will make you worth about sixty battalions. The confidence I have in you, which leads me to leave you at the head of such an important position, has put me in the position of making these changes. All divisions, being fourteen battalions each, are more manageable. The 3rd division *bis* being dissolved, each battalion which composes it will rejoin its regiment.

I give you orders to send you the material you need to organize the artillery. You must have four foot batteries for the 3rd and 40th divisions, thirty-two pieces; two spare batteries for the 13th corps, sixteen pieces; a horse battery for the 13th corps, six pieces; total, seven batteries for the 13th corps or fifty-four pieces; plus a horse-drawn artillery battery, six pieces, and a foot battery for the 50th Division, eight pieces; which will make you sixty-eight pieces of artillery.

You will have four military crew companies, the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of the 12th Battalion,

General Bourcier had to send you a cavalry regiment of 1,250 men on foot, which consists of two squadrons of light cavalry, 500 men, a squadron of dragoons, 250 men, and two squadrons of cuirassiers, 500 men; total 1,250 men. I order that you send deposits from France enough to complete the 28th of chasseurs to 1,230 men. You will ride all these men; which, with the Lithuanian regiment, will make you nearly 3,000 horses. Make sure that no men of the 32nd Division nor of the departments of Lippe and Holland are placed in the 28th chasseurs, which must remain in Hamburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.[446]

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20207. - TO MARSECHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 1st CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY, HAMBURG.

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

Cousin, it would be possible for the armistice to be prolonged until the 15th of August. If I make up my mind for this measure, it will be especially for Hamburg, since it would give you nearly a month's gain, which would give you the means of completing the armaments and the works of Hamburg, and putting this place and Harburg best stall. The battalions of the 3rd division *bis* would also have time to arrive and the 50th division would be completed to 10,000 men. Keep this new secret, but always act as if hostilities were to begin again on the 20th of July.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20208. - TO MARSHAL SOULT, DUKE OF DALMATIA, LIEUTENANT OF THE EMPEROR, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ARMIES IN SPAIN, A DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 1st, 1813,

Cousin, you will leave today before ten o'clock in the evening. You will travel incognito, taking the name of one of your aides-de-camp. You will arrive on the 4th at Paris, where you will go down to the Minister of War; you will go with him to the Archchancellor. He will update you on the latest situation. You will not stay more than twelve hours in Paris; from there you will continue your route to take the command of my armies in Spain, You will write to me from Paris.

To avoid all difficulties, I named you my lieutenant-general, commanding my armies in Spain and the Pyrenees. My intention is none the less that you receive the orders of the Regency, and that you write and report to the Minister of War all matters concerning your command. Your reports will be sent to me by this minister. The guards and all the Spanish troops will be under your command.

You will take all the measures to restore my business in Spain, to preserve Pamplona, San Sebastián and Pancorvo, finally all measures that the circumstances will require,

My intention is that all the generals or officers whom you would judge fit to send back to France remain in Bayonne, and that[447]

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they can not go to Paris without an order from the Minister of War.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

20209. - TO THE GENERAL MOUTON, COUNT LOBAU, COMMANDING THE OLD GUARD, TO DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

Having given the Duke of Dalmatia a mission which will keep him for several months away from the army, my intention is that you should be entrusted with the duties he performed for the command of my Guard, infantry, cavalry, and artillery. All contributions will be sent to you, and you will do with me all the work for the organization and movements.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20210. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS, GOVERNOR OF MAGDEBURG.

Dresden. July 1st, 1813.

Count Lernarois, it is possible that the armistice could be extended until August 15th. This is a reason to work with more activity at Werben's works. I can only repeat what I wrote to you on this subject. Keep secret what is relative to the prolongation of the armistice.

I suppose you made arrangements to build stables, and you took planks wherever you found them; lastly, that General Bourcier is already on the march to surrender with his cavalry on Magdeburg.

NAPOLEON.

From the original Comm. by Count Lemarois.

20211. - TO THE COUNT DARU, DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

Count Daru, name a commission to test the portable mills. Five of them will be placed in a workshop where five quintals a day will be grinded each day, and for several days in succession. Minutes will be taken of this test. I want to have these minutes, in order to stop my ideas on these[448]

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mills, of which it appears that success is still disputed. Start the test tomorrow.

As for the distribution of these mills, it seems to me that it is sufficient to send the model to Hamburg, where the prince of Eckmühl will have it built, which will save a hundred of them. There will therefore remain six hundred; they must be distributed, not by corps, but by regiment.

What matters most to me is to have the minutes of these mills, because it would be useless to make an expense whose success would not be sure.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20212. - TO BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE, TREASURER GENERAL, CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAINE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

I do not understand your letter of the 26th. I did not allow you to advance 3 millions to the Guard, but only 1 million. I do not know what other than me has the right to give you orders; I do not understand anything about your letter. We must not fall another time in such lightness. In the place of this million, which you will successively advance to the Guard, you will take care to take orders which will be paid to the treasury fifteen days before or fifteen days later.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20213. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

I am assured that the Sieur, Colonel of the 4th Foreign Regiment, has never made war; that he does not have the attire of a superior officer; that his wife, who has an equivocal behavior, interferes with the affairs of the regiment. It is my intention that you report to me immediately on this officer, and that you do not wait for my answer to call him to other duties. Choose, to replace him, one of our good colonels, French by birth. This corps is beautiful, it needs a good commander. Make an inquiry also about the chiefs of battalion: there is no problem in putting good French battalion leaders there.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[449]

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20214. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN

Dresden, July 1st, 1813.

My son, Austria continues to behave badly. Regiments must have been mobilized on the side of Vienna to speak in Styria. It is however, that with every conceivable effort Austria can not have more than 100,000 men on her feet, which she is obliged to share between you, Bavaria, and the army corps which is here. Send spies to be aware of all the incoming regiments, and know their divisions as they form. Have the engineers recognize the terrain between Piave and Graetz.

However, I accepted the mediation of Austria. Negotiations will open in Prague on July 5th. It seems that we have plans to extend the armistice until August 16th. It is still necessary, however, that you be at the end of July in columns, from the Piave to the Adige. Padua is not a healthy country; do not leave troops during the heat. I suppose you did not leave it in Mantua. The best cantonments, in that season, are Verona, Brescia el Bassano. Do not put me anybody in Treviso; Treviso is not healthy enough. Feltre and Conegliano are healthier.

I see with pleasure that we correspond by the estafette in ninety-six hours. Keep me well, therefore, from all that is happening, and send me every five days the state of the situation of your body, your artillery, your genius, and that I can see the generals who are coming to you.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenborg.

20215. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 2, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, the King of Westphalia desires to have French troops in his service; this measure seems to me indispensable. I desire, therefore, that Baron Reinhard should go near the King and draw up a convention in this respect.

1. France will supply to the King the men necessary to form a regiment of four squadrons of hussars, each squadron of 250 men, which would make a suit of 1,000 men on horseback; all officers and non-commissioned officers will be French. The King will request the officers, with whom he will deal by mutual agreement. They will pass[450]

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in the service of Westphalia with a grade higher than that which they have in the service of France. After having been employed for two years in this new rank in the service of Westphalia, they are likely to retain it in the French army, if they return there at the mercy of the Ministry of France and that of Westphalia. Men, officers and soldiers, will have the same treatment as in France, both for pay and for the masses. They will be entitled to pensions and rewards; they will not be required to take any particular oath, their obedience to the King being sufficiently understood in their oath as a Frenchman and in the oath they have given to the Emperor.

2. In the same manner, the cadre of a horse artillery company of 200 men will be provided. The train soldiers will be Westphalians.

3. As soon as it is possible, a light infantry regiment of two battalions, each battalion of six companies, each company of 140 men, having an artillery company with two pieces of cannon and one deposit company. This regiment would be specially charged with the guard of Cassel.

In the same treatise, one could also say that the King will form a squadron of bodyguards of 250 French, to keep his person concurrent with the Westphalian bodyguards. He may form that corps of the elite of the French, who will have been his service, and men fired, when possible, from the regiments of the Imperial Guard. For the two regiments of light infantry, the King could have in France recruiters who would enlist men for money: of course we would not take men conscription. As to the regiment of French hussars or horse-lighters, as soon as the convention is signed, I will have the necessary men furnished, so that the King can assemble them promptly and form around him a body which has some consistency. 'would call hussars of the guard.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20216. - TO GENERAL SAVARY, DUKE OF ROVIGO, MINISTER OF GENERAL POLICE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 2, 1813.

I have already told you to put in the *Moniteur* all that the English newspapers publish on the affairs of Sicily. There is

1) See the *Moniteur* of July 8, 1813.[451]

many articles which you do not put on which you should support, among others the violence exerted against Queen Caroline, which has been sent to Constantinople, and all the scenes which have been made to the King.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20217. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT BELLARD, GENERAL ASSISTANT OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 2, 1813.

Present me an organization project for the army cavalry.

There must be a general of division or brigade to command the cavalry attached to each corps, which will be at least a thousand horses.

The 1st Corps, commanded by General Vandamme and to be 8th at Wittenberg, has the 9th Light Horse Regiment. Give orders for all the detachments of this regiment to join him at Wittenberg. It will be necessary to join a second regiment to make a thousand horses, and you will propose me a general of brigade to order the cavalry of this body.

The 2nd Corps now has a Cavalry Division. He must form a brigade composed of two regiments, making 800 to 1,000 horses, with a brigadier general to command it.

The 3rd corps has the 10th hussars and a Badois regiment, commanded by General Beurmann, that is more than 1,200 horses, which is enough.

The 4th corps has two Wurtemberg brigades, which make 1,500 horses, which is enough.

The 5th body today has a division. It will be necessary to form a brigade composed of two regiments, making from 800 to 1,000 horses, with a general of brigade to order it.

The 6th corps will also have a brigade that must be formed from two regiments, with a general to command it.

The 7th corps will have a Saxon brigade.

The 8th corps is the Polish corps.

The 11th corps will have four Neapolitan squadrons, one squadron from Würzburg and the fourth from Italian fighters; which is more than 1,000 men. It takes a brigadier general to command this cavalry.

The 12th corps will have Westphalian cavalry and Hessian cavalry, making more than 1, 500 men. It will take a brigadier general.[452]

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The 13th corps will have the 28th of chasseurs, a regiment of march which goes on foot to Hamburg to be ascended, and the 17th Lithuanian. It will take a general of division to command this cavalry.

After having thus provided for the command of the cavalry attached to the army corps, you will propose to me the generals to be placed to command the divisions and brigades of the four corps of cavalry.

There are several generals who should be replaced, such as Dutch brigade generals, who have never waged war, or bad cavalry generals.

We have good cavalry generals; we must find where they are.

My intention is that in each of these four corps there should be a body of 1,500 men, commanded by a brigadier general, who would receive only the general instruction to beat the country to enlighten the march of the army and go in search of enemy supporters. It would be necessary to find for these commandments four men like General Ameil. These corps of partisans would belong respectively to a corps of cavalry, so that, when their men would be tired, they could be relieved by other detachments of the same corps.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20218. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS, GOVERNOR OF MAGDEBURG.

Dresden, July 3, 1813.

Count Lemarois, you have full power in Magdeburg. At the slightest opposition on the part of the inhabitants or the prefect, you must put the city in a state of siege and take the police. If the customs building can serve as a hospital, you did well to take it, but you do not have enough hospitals. In all wars, and especially in this one, where the strength of the enemy is in his light cavalry, it is in the strongholds that the hospitals must be placed. So walk briskly and make yourself obey.

If the fort of Werben can not be repaired before the end of the month, nothing should be done; it would attract the enemy, who would break what we would have done, which is always an insult.

By taking the customs, you make more stables for only 1,500 horses; in a city like Magdeburg, it seems very extraordinary that you do not find stables for 500 horses.[453]

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Walk with activity and convert all Magdeburg into hospitals, stables, arsenals and troop houses.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Count Lemarois.

20219. - TO THE COUNT DARU, DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 3, 1813,

Count Daru, tell me what I ordered for the hospitals, and present me a draft order for me to have the following hospitals and convalescent stores:

In Dresden, hospitals for 8,000 patients, deposits for 2,000 convalescents; at Magdeburg, hospitals for 4,000 patients, depots for 2,000 convalescents; at Wittenberg, hospitals for 1,000 patients, deposits for 1,000 convalescents; at Torgau, hospitals for 1,000 patients, depots for 1,000 convalescents at Erfurt, hospitals for 11,000 patients, and depots for 2,000 convalescents; in Leipzig, hospitals for 2,000 patients, deposits for 1,000 convalescents; in Glogau; hospitals for 4,000 patients, deposits for 2,000 convalescents; total, premises for 21,000 patients, 11,000 convalescents. My intention is to use strong places specially to contain my hospitals and cavalry depots. The above distribution among the places would place about 35,000 patients and convalescents, that is to say, about the sick of the army.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20220. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 3, 1813.

The Duke of Feltre, the king of Westphalia needs to have a French hussar regiment in his service, because he has no one around him, and the country can be agitated so that it is not there not safe. My intention is to provide him with 1,200 men; let me know what deposit they can draw. They will be sent off in trousers and jackets; the King will dress them and assemble them. It must also be given officers; you will take my orders on those which might be granted to him.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.[454]

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20221. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN

Dresden, July 3, 1813.

My Son, I approve of the location you donated to the observation corps of Italy; know, from the Isonzo to the Adige. Moreover, as the events advance, I will warn you whether to bring closer to the Piave the divisions that would be in Brescia or Verona.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy COmm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20222. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 4th, 1813.

Cousin, order the sailors of the Guard to arm as many boats as they can. You will have 1,000 sick, of those who can not be cured for three months, and will be taken to Magdeburg, where these boats will be loaded, in return, with food and artillery that this place must provide.

Dresden is still congested with too many sick and wounded; it is important to diminish it, since, as soon as the hostilities recommenced, the wounded would arrive from all points at Dresden. I believe that there are now in Dresden 9,000 sick people wounded, not counting the wounded who are encamped and who will soon be healed; Of these 9,000 sick or wounded, I suppose that a thousand will soon be healed, and at least 2,000 will be evacuated either on Magdeburg, for those who can be cured in a few months, or on France, for all those who are amputated or out of service.

Order the greatest possible activity in all these evacuations.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20223. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5TH, 25TH AND 26TH MITERARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE.

Dresden, July 4th, 1813.

Cousin, I'm getting your letter of July 2nd. I see with pleasure that the observation corps of Bavaria reaches 18,000 men. I have[455]

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sent General Bonet to command the 42nd and 43rd Divisions. I wish you to press as much as possible the formation of the artillery of this corps.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Duc de Valmy.

20224. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, let Baron Alquier know that I approve his plan to make shipments of several vessels of thirty tons on Danzig. I see that the expedition of one of these vessels will cost only 3 or 4,000 francs; as I have given 50,000 francs for this object, he can therefore send ten or twelve.

My intention is that he successively speaks one of these buildings every week. Each of them will carry, 1st, a letter in numerical order from Baron Alquier to the governor, General Rapp, in which he will inform him of the position of the affairs of Europe; to this end, you will send to Baron Alquier the figure which the major general uses with General Rapp, the following of the Moniteur and Gazettes of Copenhagen from the 1st of May to the time of the departure of the vessel; (3) wine, rum, brandy, medicines, rice, herrings, and all that the building can carry in objects of a nature to be useful to the garrison. Arriving in Danzig, the cargo will belong to the boss, who will sell it what he can. It would be of utmost importance to get Danzig salted meat, dry fish and other things that can replace meat, as well as rice.

As for the gratifications, the patron would receive on his arrival 2,400 francs from General Rapp, which would be carried in the numerical letter, and 2,400 francs on his return to Copenhagen, These 4,800 francs would not be part of the expenses of the expedition, and as soon as when the funds of 50,000 francs, for which a credit is opened to Baron Alquier, should not be taken, the expedition of ten vessels, at 3,000 francs each, would be only 30,000 francs; but he is given a loan of 50,000 francs, so that he can make leave the buildings of a larger port, which would carry a greater quantity of rice, dried fish, butter, & c.

Let Baron Alquier know that he has carte blanche for this[456]

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object, and that it is useless for him to lose precious time to consult. The Prince of Neuchatel will send him letters by General Rapp; but, in the event that he has not received one, he will nevertheless leave a building every week. It is a great consolation for a garrison to receive news by the letters of a man accredited as ambassador.

You will further order to Baron Alquier that these expeditions can not be considered as a means of supply for this place and are only means of communication; but that there must be means of supplying this supply, especially in the late season, when the ice will force the English to move away. Expeditions of this kind must be a matter of gold for those who make them.

Here are the principles on which they could be made: Baron Alquier will undertake to pay a price that he will stipulate for every 100 metric tons of wheat, rice, salted meat, dried fish, etc., or for each barrel of spirits, rum or wine, etc., which would be introduced into Danzig. Colonial goods could also be introduced there; you will inform him that he may fix these prices at double, and even quadruple what is ordinarily required for the same articles sold at Danzig; but that all the risks of the expedition must be borne by the shipowner. By taking Prussian papers, these expeditions will offer almost no danger for skilled sailors who may enter the Danzig at night,

The ships can be loaded with wood and all that Danzig provides. The goods delivered to Danzig will be paid in cash, at Copenhagen, on the basis of the receipts of General Rapp. The funds could be deposited in advance with a Danish banker. Moreover, all risks must be on the account of the shipowner, otherwise we could not succeed. The operation must be made large enough to bring into Danzig 5 or 6 million rations of food, wheat, rice, salted meat, etc .; for this purpose, it will be used 3 or 4 million francs.

If a ship-owner wanted to link his operation with the introduction of colonial commodities in France, this could take place; but everything must be calculated in money to know what to hold. The best way would be to treat only for money and fixed price. Baron Alquier must be able to find easily Danes, and even Swedes, who will undertake this speculation.

As for the Weichselmünde fort, there is no doubt that it is[457]

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our power; if it were not there, it would be as impossible to enter by sea in Danzig as in Magdeburg. It could therefore be stipulated in the treaty that the losses occasioned by the capture of Weichselmünde by the enemy would not be in the account of the shipowner.

Although Danzig is well supplied, this place is so important that Baron Alquier must have carte blanche for this operation.

Recommend that he treat this matter very secretly; he must employ skilful agents and spare nothing. Each of the ships shipped for this supply would also carry an encrypted letter from him and some newspapers.

As I attach the highest importance to this operation, I wish you to send to Copenhagen someone who is well acquainted with maritime affairs, to be charged with all the accounts of the operation under the orders of Baron Alquier. I do not like my ministers having funds in their hands; Baron Alquier will direct the entire operation; but the person whom you send, and who must be of recognized probity, will keep the cash register; but this applies only to the great operation of supply. For the first operation on the fund of 50,000 francs, it is not worth it. I am convinced that by November Danzig can be supplied by Denmark and Sweden for six months.

Follow this business with the greatest activity. Write every day to Baron Alquier, and let him know that I count on 5 to 6 million rations of food by December 1st.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20225. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

Write to General Bertrand in Leipzig that you have to let all the merchants go to the Naumburg fair, but you have to question everything that comes from the other side of the Elbe on what is going on in Berlin and on the Prussian army.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[458]

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20226. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813;

My Cousin, it would be necessary that the general of gendarmerie had a correspondence with the commander of gendarmerie of the duke of Reggio, in order to have reports of all that arrives of Berlin and the interrogation which it will make to this effect to the travelers.

Write to General Lapoype, at Wittenberg, and at the commanders of Torgau and Dessau, to interrogate all who pass the Elbe, coming from the Prussian side, for news of the enemy.

Urge the commander of Torgau to hasten the departure of the Torgau artillery for Wittenberg, and instruct General Lapoype to have this battery artillery immediately put on the spot.

Give me a general state (by having it put on the map) of all the positions chosen by the commanders, from Hamburg to Bohemia, to establish entrenched houses. Instruct the engineer commander of the ten to twelve thousand tools that have arrived at Torgau, so that he can use them for his work.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20227. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

My cousin, order that all the bridges which the enemy has burned in his retreat, from Lützen up to here and from Iena to here, be repaired and restored to their present condition. Give orders to the bailiffs and send officers to these two leagues. These bridges must be restored ten days after the receipt of your order. In the current state, the outlets are difficult, and they would be impassable in the winter.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20228. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

Cousin, write to the King of Bavaria to let you know with what part of his active forces General Wrede could enter Bohemia, if, in the case where Austria declared us[459]

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the war, the theater of war was on Prague, while the viceroy would enter Styria.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war,

20229. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

I eagerly await information from the Spanish army. I have given the Duke of Dalmatia all the authority necessary to reorganize the army. I forbade the King of Spain to meddle in my affairs. I suppose the Duke of Dalmatia will also dismiss Marshal Jourdan. Unless the losses are greater than I know at this moment, I hope that 100,000 men will be reunited on the Bidassoa and at Jaca's outlets, and that as soon as you have assembled some artillery and a few transports, the Duke of Dalmatia will go forward to deliver Pamplona and reject the English beyond the Ebro. However, I am still in the dark of events, and I still do not know what happened.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20230. - TO MARSHAL GOUVION SAINT-CYR, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 5, 1813.

I intend you to command a corps of observation which would be increased from 30 to 60,000 men, according to the circumstances, and who, from Konigstein, would maneuver on both banks of the Elbe and could lead to a corps which, from Bohemia, it would be Dresden by Neustadt, Zittau; or who, by the left bank, would go there by Peterswuldc or Karlsbad. I, therefore, wish you to recognize Konigstein; that you see there the works which I made do; that you recognize the three outlets that go on Stolpen, Schandau and Krossen. I want you to give your instructions to the engineers on how to be master of the grand parade.

See also on the left bank the communications with Konigstein with the roads which from Dresden go to Peterswalde, and the manner of ascertaining the passage of the ravines. See the positions to be occupied between Peterswalde and Dresden, cross the whole frontier along Bohemia, and see all the outlets therein; I am assured[460]

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that there are eleven, but that there is only one that can serve the movements of a great army. Browse all these places without making your rank known; study the land, and even push up to the outlet which from Bohemia descends on Hof.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20231. - TO THE COUNT DARU, DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 5, 1813.

Count Daru, let me know how it would be possible to procure 100,000 bushels of oats for the cavalry of the Guard, which lacks them. Do I have any in Torgau? Do I have any in Wittenberg? Do I have any in Magdeburg? Finally, could 100,000 bushels of oats be obtained here, and at what cost? Propose me tomorrow, to see, openings on it.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20232. – NOTE ON THE FIELD ENTREACHMENT OF DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 5th, 1813.

As I said yesterday, I do not find the entrenched camp and the works of the right bank advanced enough to undertake the entrenched camp on the left bank. What are the works of this camp? They do not form an entrenched camp; the device is not good: a circle which refuses its wings is a bad disposition of war. On the right bank I desired an entrenched camp, because it may be supposed that circumstances of war might oblige me to defend the right bank and to place 50 to 60,000 men there. I can no longer understand the entrenched camp on the left bank: the right downstream and the left upstream I would be blocked and I lose my communications with France. If circumstances of war obliged me to take the position of an entrenched camp on this bank, I would choose the direction, not along the river, but in the direction perpendicular to its course. This device will not be used for anything. I can not and can not foresee the case where I would be obliged to defend the left bank by throwing myself on the right bank: so it is not a camp that I wanted to do, but the suburbs that I wanted cover. Moreover, we can not cover these against an attack[461]

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serious, and it is bad commitment to undertake something that would not be possible.

Place at 1,200 toises around; there is a scarp and a counterscarp; the demolished part may be in such a state that it forces the enemy to open the trench, and, supposing that he arrives by the right bank and that he comes to operate on the left bank, the bridges, the stores, hospitals, handling are safe: it is the result of a stronghold; it would only take from 3 to 6,000 men to fill it If in a war the enemy had a larger cavalry than ours (which would cause him to risk his, especially if it was useless for him on a day of battle), and If it had the instinct for this kind of operation, would the place of Dresden restore its suburbs, the cavalry, should it have the light pieces which it leads to its suite? No. There is no commander knowing his duty, which would yield the suburbs to simple cavalry. Only we must help this commander; it is the only goal that I proposed to myself. It must be prepared for closures; so that the population and resources of the suburbs are protected from any attack by the light cavalry. This is what leads me to believe that crenellating the walls, making sure communications allow for country pieces to trot around the walls of the suburbs, closing by palanques [defense wall with large vertical piles] the openings where there are no walls. To keep only six or eight exits for the public traffic, forms all that is to be done to prepare the defense of the suburbs. Exits should be closed by good barriers and covered with frame drums; the houses must be crenellated, and those to be occupied must be designated in advance. In case of insufficiency of the walls, one would have palanques. The engineers demands for that 20,000 palisades; that's all we can ask.

All these works have been made, we will always be in time to place glasses [advanced position in a fortification system] in front of outlets that will be left open. Thus, in summary, I ask for a project which renders impracticable all the issues which from the outskirts lead to the campaign; today there are forty to sixty; I ask that they be rendered impassable in the first and second lines, and that there be only six, doors at least, and twelve at the most; the posts which will keep them will have to be able to communicate with each other and along the ditches where is the hoist, so that the service of the suburbs is done like that of the place. I think for the moment, that's all we can do. When this is done, I will see what will be done. I would also like to abandon the project[462]

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the suburb I live, in case the garrison finds itself too weak to defend it, and to retire behind the little river, where a single exit, like the bridge, is sufficient.

This way of looking at the question is the most natural; it gives less work; it will give a better defense, because houses that will have views on the points to defend and walls that will be crenellated will always be stronger than a simple hoist. So I need a project for this defense system.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

20233. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 6th, 1813.

My cousin, I ordered that requisitions be made in the departments surrounding Bayonne for the needs of the army of Spain. Count Mollien, who has the copies of my decrees, will put them in your eyes.

In the distribution I signed for the month of July, I opened a credit in sinking fund bonds; it is necessary that you in the Council of Ministers insist that the Ministers of War and the Administration of War should use all their discretion to use these bonds. It is quite simple that, as the money does not arrive as soon as the needs, I use that resource. These vouchers can never be compared to assignats [paper money], since they bear interest at 5 per cent, they are repayable in one year or eighteen months, and in the meantime they are admissible in payment of the property of the property. common, that, moreover, the quantity of goods on sale is much greater than the quantity of bonds in issue. Emphasize this, and support the courage of Count Mollien, who sometimes has too narrow financial views. Also, make sure the ministers help the treasure with all their efforts.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

20234. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, PARIS.

Dresden. July 6, 1813.

Duke de Feltre, you ask for 300,000 francs to restore the equipment of the artillery of the Army of Spain. You have[463]

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seeing that I put a million at your disposal for the expenses of this army; it is my intention that you take special care to use the sinking fund as much as you can.

I also want you to cut in the forests, whether imperial, communal, or even private, all the woods that will be needed for palisades, armor and artillery. You will consult on this subject with the Minister of Finance, who will abbreviate all forms. This will only be carried in the accounts for memory and it will not cost me anything.

It is important that on the funds returned with the army, no matter to which corps they belong, it is paid a month of pay to the army. You will pay neither gratuity nor extraordinary treatment, but simply pay, by giving it to the soldiers for five days, and a month to the officers.

You will be careful to declare to the generals that all the expenses of representation and extraordinary expenses which were allotted to them on enemy country are like not in France. Have no regard to the claims. The German army does not enjoy these supplements, and moreover it has never been granted except on requisition funds; the treasure can not recognize them. You will refuse all claims for loss of crews. They made these losses after a battle and through their fault.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Deposit of the war.

20235. - TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS,

Dresden. July 6, 1813.

Count Mollien, you will receive two decrees of this day, ordering one of them to make requisitions for the food of the army of Spain; the other, that part of the price of the hospital days for the sick and wounded of the said army will be paid, in the neighboring departments of the frontier, in sums of the sinking fund eligible for payment of national domains, same as the full price of the commodities required in the same departments. By this means, the treasury will not be impoverished, and the departments will not have to suffer: one will feel besides that it is a moment of crisis. You see that it is important that payments are made every two weeks. Send so[464]

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vouchers in all the prefectures to be designated, and according to the estimates to be determined by the minister of the administration of war, so that these payments are done exactly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Mrs. Countess Mollien,

20236. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Dresden. July 6, 1813,

You will make known to the Duke of Dalmatia the decree I took to reorganize the army of Spain. He will choose the generals. I desire him to form as many divisions as he will have 6,000 men at one time: thus, if he gathers 72,000 men, he will have twelve divisions. There must be no army corps; there will only be divisions. The general-in-chief will put the number of divisions that he deems fit under the orders of his lieutenants.

As for the three generals, lieutenants of the general-in-chief, give them a salary which, all inclusive, does not exceed 40,000 francs.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20237. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden. July 6, 1813.

I do not know yet what happened to the Spanish army. I see with difficulty that General Clausel has not yet joined. It is unfortunate that the army has abandoned Navarre without having collected this general. I suppose that you have sent to the scene, and that you will shortly have an exact report on the situation of things.

At this moment, I see above all two important objects: 1st) take a position so as to cover San Sebastian, and 2nd) maneuver, before the food of Pamplona is consumed, to deliver this place.

In Spain, the time of harvest should not be remote, and food will be found in Navarre and Biscay.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[465]

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20238. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 6th, 1813.

Cousin, order General Pajol to go to Freyberg tomorrow. He will take command of a brigade of light cavalry, composed of the 7th of light horse, which will be joined by his 3rd and 4th squadrons, and which will soon be 1,000 men, and the Italian chasseurs regiment, which will also have 1,000 men. He will supervise the instruction of these regiments.

He will send three pickets composed of lancers and Italians, commanded by good officers, on the frontier and on the three great communications: 1st), from Dresden to Prague, in the direction of Tœplitz; 2nd), from Prague to Leipzig, at the place where it meets the Saxon frontier; 3rd) on the Karlsbad high road in Chemnitz. These three posts will provide small posts for the intermediate roads, of which there are eight, and which, together with the three great communications, form eleven roads. These posts will be peaceful; they will not let anything pass from Saxony to Bohemia which is suspect, nor from Bohemia to Saxony. They will interrogate the travelers, and let only those who have passports pass. They will stop the colonial goods they want to pass, and they will report what they know. The headquarters will be in Freyberg.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20239. - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 6th, 1813.

My cousin, order the Duke of Castiglione to send engineers and staff officers to recognize two good positions, one of which would cover the outlets of Hof and Plauen on Bohemia, and the other the Baireuth outlets. He must make all the outlets on Bohemia known, from the Danube to Hof.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[466]

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20240, - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MILAN,

Dresden, July 6, 1813,

My son, I receive your dispatch of the 1st of July, with the letter of the consul of Trieste of the 28th of June. After an event like this, there is no time to lose to order the Duke d'Abrantes(1) to go to his home in Burgundy. The administration will pass into the hands of the steward. Send a soldier to take the acting leadership, until I have appointed another governor: can you give that mission to one of your aides-de-camp, who will report to you all, and submit what he Is there something important to your decision? Have for this unfortunate man all the care required by his position, but take it quickly from a country where he offers a distressing spectacle.

I signed the decree you sent me for the 112th.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20241. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 7, 1813,

Cousin, I will leave tomorrow, 8th or at the latest on the 9th, from here, to go to Torgau, where I will have lunch. I will go to dinner at Wittenberg; I will see the 5th and 6th divisions with their artillery, I will go to Dessau on the 9th, where I will sleep, and I will see the 1st division. I will go from there to Magdeburg, where I will arrive on the 10th, and there will see the 2nd and 23rd divisions. Give orders for all these troops to be ready, and the right bank of the Elbe, especially Dessau at Magdeburg, to be well guarded. As my Guard will not be able to escort me from Dessau to Magdeburg, the Duke of Padua will provide it. I will return by Leipzig, where I will see the whole body of the Duke of Padua. Let me know where I can see the Wurtemberg brigade and the Dombrowski brigade; where are they in this moment?

NAPOLEON

From the original Deposit of the war.

20242. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 13th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAMBOUHG.

Dresden. July 7, 1813,

Cousin, I answer your letter of the 4th, I think that it is not necessary

1) Duke Abrantes had just given signs of a serious cerebral affection.[467]

do no work in Lübeck. We can only increase those of Travemünde. I have informed you that, a few days before the resumption of hostilities, you must concentrate the French troops on Hamburg and gather the Danish troops on your left; but it is probable that by this time a treaty will have been concluded with the King of Denmark, so that we shall know what to do with it.

The meeting of the 40th Division in Werben will enable you to keep the entire left bank of the Elbe. The 2nd and 5th battalions of the 3rd line will be 7th at Wesel; they will have arrived before 1 August in Hamburg. A battalion of the 33rd Light, 900 strong, must leave Vlissingen; a second battalion was completed by refractory conscripts at Wesel, and a third went straight to Hamburg. I hope that before the 1st of August the 50th division will be the strength of 10 to 12,000 men. You will need dressings; but I recommended that all these soldiers leave France well armed. I ordered, however, that 3,000 rifles and 6,000 bayonets should be sent to Hamburg.

The detachments of the 28th chasseurs are on their way to Hamburg: its five squadrons, with a strength of 200 men, will be meeting at Hamburg on the 1st of August, and take steps to get them there. The three provisional regiments of cuirassiers, composed of twelve 4th squadrons, making 2,400 men, will arrive in Hamburg before the 10th of August; it's up to you to take steps to mount them. The decree I made and the letter I wrote you this morning will make you aware of everything that concerns these regiments. If, at the moment of the rupture of the armistice, a portion of these 4,000 cavalry men had not been mounted, you will be able to profit by it for the service of the place; they have rifles or carabiners, and you would exercise them with the firing of the cannon.

So I hope that the 50th Division, the cavalry, the gendarmerie, the customs officers and the sailors will form a garrison of 18 to 20,000 men at Hamburg and Harburg, while you will have the 3rd and 40th divisions and the Danes. You will then, according to the circumstances, enter the Mecklenburg, or you will take a position in front of Hamburg, or else, if necessary, you will cross the Elbe to cover the left bank.

Take care of the clothing workshops, and establish the workshops and accounting of the 3rd, 29th and 105th line, 33rd light and 28th of chasseurs. These five corps must have their depots in Hamburg, and they must follow the fate of this place.

The artillery is running on Hamburg, Magdeburg, Wesel[468]

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and Groningen. Take care that your powders are placed in three different places, so that if you lose a shop, you have two left. Make sure that the three redoubts are set and the mortars put in battery against the city.

I am waiting for the six millions you are announcing to complete the first ten.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess Eckmuhl.

20243. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden. July 7, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke Decres, I approve that you have sent 600 sailors from Cherbourg to Hamburg; it is unfortunate that you have not been able to send them from Boulogne or Dunkirk, which are closer to Hamburg. I have appointed 1,000 men of the 5th crew to shut themselves up in Hamburg if necessary; the hostilities may recommence about the 10th of August, it is necessary that before this time these 1,000 men have arrived at Hamburg. I do not mind if you pass buildings to Delfzyl, since they go through the channels of the interior; but it would be inconvenient to send them from Delfzyl to Hamburg, because at the resumption of the hostilities it would be possible that these coasts were disturbed, and that then these buildings would be exposed. It is therefore necessary to leave in the Zuiderzee the buildings that are there, and to compose the flotilla of the Elbe only twenty-five buildings, using the buildings of the country and ten boats which, being already in Delfzyl, can be rendered in Hamburg before the break-up of the armistice. I write to Prince Eckmühl to send for them by a detachment of the 5th flotilla crew.

The corvettes and brigs on the Hamburg shipyard can be completed and some Spanish gunboats can be built there; but we must not make any movement that could compromise buildings,

I answer your questions:

1st) You ask why I do not speak of Wesel and Jahde: it is my intention that the 5th crew and Rear-Admiral Lhermitte provide for the safety of the coast; but I speak only of Hamburg, because I suppose that in case of an event this crew and admiral will shut themselves up in Hamburg.

2nd) I have already answered your second question. The sailors that[469]

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you send to Hamburg must go there by the shortest route, as quickly as possible, and without going through Amsterdam.

3rd) By setting up 600 convicts in Hamburg, I had two aims: first, not to clutter our ports with foreign convicts, and the antrum to employ them partly in the work of the navy and partly in the work of the fortifications. The 300 military naval workers will also be employed, under the governor's orders, in the work of the navy and in the work of the war. If those of the navy are the most in a hurry, they will preferably be employed there; if not, it will be those of the war. One company could be attached to the service of the navy, and the other to the service of the war. My intention is that the governor may employ all the resources of the navy, and, as these sailors are specially attached to the service of Hamburg, you will explain to them that the governor will put as much interest in them as in the service of the land.

It is therefore necessary that Rear-Admiral Lhermitte and the administration should consider themselves attached to the place of Hamburg, and do everything to assist the governor, and obey all his orders.

It is understood that this does not concern accounting.

I approve that you complete the work of the navy by extraordinary recruitment.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

20211. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 8, 1813.

Cousin, I send you a report from the Duke of Vicenza. I replied, as it were, that I did not meddle with these details, that I could not go down to that point. But I can hardly see the Duke of Rovigo reacting. The Duke de Rovigo knows neither Paris nor the Revolution; if he was allowed to do so, he would soon set fire to France. In talking to you about this supplier, I am not talking about him, but of all measures of this nature. Is there anything to reproach this man for sixteen years? It is removed from Paris as having been violent revolutionary. If we thus weigh on the class of people who are domiciled and tranquil, it is to be feared that this will produce the worst effect and excite general anxiety.[470]

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If the Duke de Rovigo wanted to drive all those who took part in the Revolution away from France, there would be no one left. And how can one make a crime against men? This class of their exaltation in the Revolution, when the Senate, the Council of State, and the army are full of people who have marked them with the violence of their opinions? I must suppose that there was nothing to reproach this man for, since the people of my house, who are in no way partisans of revolutionary opinions, kept him as a supplier. You will inform the Duke de Bovigo that it is my intention that he should not remove anyone from Paris without having spoken to you before. Tell him also that if he lets himself be dragged away by the prefect of police or men of that dress, who know neither the situation of France nor that of Paris, he will soon set everything on fire and shake my government, which is based on the guarantee of crowds the opinions. You will ask the Duke de Rovigo to return to you at once the condition of all the persons he has exiled from Paris, dividing them into two classes, one containing all those who have misbehaved and who, possessing nothing, still desire troubles; the other containing the men domiciled and tranquil, to whom we have nothing to reproach for but their old opinions. One must leave, without worrying them, all those who belong to this last class. To the train the Duke of Rovigo is going to go, I suppose he would soon react on all the generals who were hot revolutionaries. As it has come to me from many quarters that many people of this class have been exiled, ask the Duke de Rovigo to give you the exact state of the matter.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

20245. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 8, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, it is shameful for your department that I do not know the strengths of Austria and that I have no memo on the current state of the finances of this power. I do not know the number of divisions, regiments, and battalions which Austria has set in motion, and where these corps are found; my embassy in Vienna did not provide any information. External relations have funds for secret expenses, and their job is to be educated about armaments and the situation of the corps[471]

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other States; but they do not tell me anything. Finally, I should have regularly, by Copenhagen, all the newspapers of Petersburg, Riga, and Stockholm, and, by Vienna, that of all the newspapers of Berlin and Warsaw; but I do not receive anything of it. You do not conduct your department with the activity and hard work required by the external relations of such a large empire. I've been complaining about external relations many times, but it only works for a few days. You do not direct them with enough and firmness. There are many secretaries of legation who are inept, such as I am assured, as the first secretary of the Embassy in Vienna. It is absurd to keep in a position so important a man without talent. I shall regard foreign relations as responsible, if I do not receive exactly from Copenhagen the newspapers of St. Petersburg and Stockholm, and, by Vienna, those of Berlin and Warsaw, as well as information on all the military movements.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20246. - TO M. MARET, DUKE OF BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 8, 1813.

Monsieur le Duke de Bassano, I send you a report which General Drouot, one of my aides-de-camp, escapes me. It appears that no order or set has been made in the supplies to be made for the corps of Prince Poniatowski. Everyone has passed contracts that have not been subject to my approval; so that I do not know what has been done. You yourself have not been aware of the stipulated prices, to know whether they were superior or inferior to those of the contracts awarded for the French troops. Sheets that are only to be delivered in fifty-six days are an absurdity; they should already be. Lastly, there was no order or activity in this important operation which I entrusted to you.

Make me a general report on this object. You will make me acquainted, 1st) with all past contracts by comparing their prices with those of the contracts awarded by the Authorizing Officer of the Army, in order to ascertain whether they are lower; 2nd) all those who should be terminated, as not being able to be executed on August 1st. Finally you will propose a mode to put all in all these supplies, and you will give me the state of everything of which the Polish corps[472]

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still needs. I can hardly see that a precious month has been lost.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20247. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 8, 1813.

Cousin, I send you my orders concerning the works of Dresden and Konigstein, and the arming of the Dresden Fort. Make the necessary arrangements for their execution.

All the redoubts which form the entrenched camp on the right bank of the Elbe, in front of Dresden, will be traced on the 10th of July and commenced on the 11th. These enterprises, like those to be undertaken, will be entrusted, for their execution, to the six regiments of the young guard established at the camp. Each regiment will provide a 200-man workshop, which will work from four in the morning until noon, and another of 200 men, who will work first and work until eight o'clock in the evening. Battalions No. 1 will work in the morning, those No. 2 in the evening. Each regiment will appoint two captains and two lieutenants to direct the work; they will always be of service. When the redoubts are completed, the engineers will take my orders to be granted a bonus. The genie will get along with these officers so that, each redoubt being given to the task, the soldier can gain from 8 to 9 sous in his half-day. General Delaborde will take the necessary measures to ensure that this money benefits the well-being of the soldier and improves his routine; no restraint shall be made to him, neither for his clothing nor for his service. Each redoubt will bear the name of the regiment that built it.

The same provisions will be applied to the regiments of the young Guard employed at the entrenched camp in front of Koeuigstein.

II

1st) It will be dug along the bank and on the right bank of the brook Weisseritz a ditch 7 to 8 feet wide, being able to receive 6 feet of water depth, so as to close on this side the suburbs of Dresden; the soil from the excavation will be thrown forward and placed in a rack line that can accommodate[473]

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cannon and riflemen. This line will be palisaded, a barrier will be placed on the bridge, a cross will be raised backward to receive a piece of cannon, and frieze horses will be prepared to barricade if necessary in front of the bridge.

2nd) From the left end of this rack upstream of the Elbe, eight arrows of 60 fathoms will be drawn around it; they will be separated from 200 to 250 fathoms from each other. Only four of them will be built first, so that they are well seen from each other and give fire to all the exits. They will be palisadées and armed with guns.

3rd) All the walls of the suburbs will be united in their gaps by palisades; the exits, reduced to six, will have gates, crosspieces to receive a piece of cannon, and frieze horses to barricade if circumstances required it.

4th) These works will have to be drawn for the 11th of July and started on the 12th.

5th) The artillery of the Guard will supply 150 horses, the crews of the Guard 100, the artillery of the army 100, for the transport of the palisades: they will be at the disposal of the commander of the engineers of the army.

6th) Palisade trains will be sent down from the upper Elbe; 100 sailors of the Guard will be put at the disposal of the engineers to carry out this transport by water.

7th). The Major-General shall make all necessary arrangements for the execution of this order.

III

Each of the bastions of Dresden Fort, on the left bank, will be armed with two pieces of small caliber placed in the lower flanks, so as to be stolen from the fusillade of the houses; the salient will also each receive two pieces. The four arrows in front of the suburbs will each receive four pieces of cannon, and the transoms behind the exits will have one piece. The large telescope on the right bank will be armed with three pieces of heavy caliber, two howitzers and a mortar.

The governor of Dresden will go through the place tomorrow; he will be accompanied by commanders of artillery and engineering, in order to stop the project of armament, to know the pieces which it will be possible to know and the best device to give them.

There will be, in addition, in reserve, three batteries: one of eight pieces of 12, one of eight pieces of 6 and one of eight howitzers; total, twenty-four guns. They will be used where the circumstances[474]

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so require; they will then be harnessed, either with horses caught in the depots or with those of the town.

IV

The road from Stolpen to Hohnstein having been repaired by the officers of the staff, the engineers will have Bohnstein repaired at Koenigstein. For this purpose three wheels will be used: (1) a first such that the enemy, even if he had managed to occupy the heights of the stream of Polenz, can not, by the fusillade or the cannon, disturb the communication; (2) the current road through the Ziegenriik rock and across the Polenz ravine; it may be hindered by the fusillade of the left bank of this ravine, but, as the bottom of it is impracticable, the enemy will not be able to intercept this communication; Thirdly, the third route will come from Hohnstein and Waitsdorf to Porschdorf and Schandau: there will thus be three good markets. But if the enemy came from Neustadt and seized the plateau in front of Hohnstein, we would have only the first and the second to communicate: we must therefore establish two or three redoubts to be master and place them in before Hohnstein.

All these works will be traced before the 11th of July, and on the 12th we will begin to work on them; it will employ the two regiments of the Guard which are at Konigstein, and, besides, the workmen of the country who were engaged in the roll of Stolpen at Hohnstein. The genius, in confiding the execution of the redoubts to the regiments of the Guard, will make the payments on the same basis as for those employed at the entrenched camp of Dresden on the right bank. The regiments will be directed in the same way for tasks and hours of work.

The country between Neusladt and the borders of! Bohemia will be well studied and represented on a large scale, so that one knows perfectly the ground if one had to operate on this part.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20248. - TO COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN

Dresden. July 8, 1813.

Count Daru, see the Minister of the Interior of Saxony today. Let it be known to him that stopping the fodder service is like abandoning the government, since, if it is not[475]

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no longer the distribution of fodder, it will be necessary or to require it militarily in all the villages, or that the soldiers go to take it in the houses, which would put the country to the pillage.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20249. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT DUROSNEL, GOVERNOR OF DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 8, 1813.

Send an officer of the elite gendarmerie and 12 gendarmes, as well as a detachment of 100 light-horse guards, taken from those who are quartered around Pirna, to settle on the main road from Dresden to Prague at the extreme frontier, placing posts on all side roads. This officer will give you an account of all the travelers who will go from Dresden to Prague, or will come from Prague to Dresden, as well as from all those who come and go from the waters of Tœplitz. He will also inform you of all that passes on these roads in horses, cattle, cars loaded with goods; in a word, he will keep you informed of all the movements. You will give me this report every day.

The gendarmerie officer you choose should be a trustworthy, intelligent and knowledgeable officer. He will send agents to the Bohemian border to learn about the situation and movements of the Austrian troops.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20250. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

Cousin, I took steps for the Spanish army. I ordered that requisitions should be made in Languedoc and that they should be paid in sums of the sinking fund, eligible for payment of communal property; To this end, in the July distribution, I made funds available to the ministers. I see from the report of the Minister of Finance that he has already got his hands on 100 millions of municipal property; but that's only a third of what I hear. There is only one way to make these sales easy, is to pay everything the ministers owe in the sinking fund, without paying attention if they lose[476]

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on the Stock Exchange 5 or 6 per cent; that does not concern us. These vouchers are too real, since they bear interest, since they are repayable in eighteen months and they can be used for the purchase of communal goods, so that we attach some importance to what they lose or what they earn. It's not a paper money. But, supposing that they lose something, it is a bonus which will excite the bearers of these vouchers to push more quickly the purchases of the goods of the communes.

I refer you your project for the young Duchess of Friuli, so that you make it pass to the Council of State.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres.

20251. - TO M. GAUDIN, DUKE OF GAETE, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

I beg you to inform me which departments have not taken possession of the property of the communes. What had led me not to take possession of the property situated in these departments was the impossibility of selling them; but my intention being to issue vouchers to pay requisitions to be made in these departments, it would then be possible to place the vouchers in the sale of these goods. It is therefore necessary that you give preparatory orders for the sale of these goods, so that when I order the sale, it can take place without delay.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20252. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 9, 1813.

You have sent me various situations of the army, in which all the states of situation of the corpses have been removed, so that it takes a great pains to see what the journals are. Send me all these states.

I do not understand the situation of the army either. He wears the 149th at 2,700 men as present under arms, and absent 600. However he only wears strength at 2,700. I do not understand this. Ask this corps the situation state.

The Duke of Ragusa does not give his divisions the numbers[477]

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they have in the army; he gives them numbers of his corps, which have nothing in common with those they have in the army.

I refer you all the situation stalls that you sent me; examine them and have them relieved, corps by corps, division by division, regiment by regiment, battalion by battalion, company by company; that I see this by a single picture, an abbreviated stripping of all that exists. Send a similar job for the artillery and the crews, so that I see the situation with few words. You will attach what is already there, day by day, until the 10th, and from the 10th to the 20th; the situation on the 30th and the 10th, taking note of all that is on the way.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20253. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke of Bellune, who always complains of having no circle, that it is his fault: that he had orders to occupy Krossen and that he did not do so; that his trial and error is the cause that I have lost that important circle which gives the enemy an outlet which may be harmful to me; that in war, when one has an order, one must execute it; that something else was to go to Krossen, or to make the question; that he let eight days go by and change the question,

NAPOLEON

From the original, Depot of War.

TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 9, 1813.

Cousin, it is necessary to write to the Prince of Eckmühl that by showing distrust to the Danes and to the allies he will put them against him; that if the Danes had wanted to correspond with Sweden, they would not have lacked means for that; that they must be shown more confidence than they do.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[478]

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20255. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

My Cousin, give orders to two engineers geographers to leave immediately to continue the recognition of the borders of Bohemia. The first will proceed to Joehstadt, whence he will describe the route from Annaberg to Johstadt and Kaaden; he will then recognize the communications of Saxony with Karlshad, and those of Plauen and Hof with Eger, Adorf, and Asch; it will likewise describe all the small intermediate communications which cross the mountains. The second will go to Neustadt, from where he will go to Neusalzu, Zittau, Marklissa and Friedeberg, he will describe the roads which, on all this line of frontiers, penetrate into Bohemia by Neusalza, Zittau, Seidenberg, Lissa, & c. Both will be careful to indicate the quality of the roads, passable or not for cars, as well as the nature of the country; their memoirs will be accompanied by sketches intended to follow the work already done.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war

20256. - TO THE GENERAL COMTE LEMAROIS, GOVERNOR OF MAGDEBURG.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

I receive your letter of July 6th. You have 240,000 bushels of oats in Magdeburg. "It's not possible," you write to me: it's not French. I am therefore dissatisfied with your letter. Immediately send two boats loaded with oats for the horses of the Guard, who are dying. This oat will be replaced by what happens in the country, by the harvest that is next, and finally by what is sent from the 32nd division.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20257. - TO GENERAL BARON DEJEAN, EMPEROR'S AIDE DE CAMP, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

While you stay here, you will visit the military clothing and equipment workshops every day.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[479]

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20258. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

Count Daru, order at once that 10,000 quintals of flour, weight of marc, 500 quintals of rice and 1,000 quintals of vegetables from the Mainz reserve be placed in reserve in the citadel of Würzburg. If there is a biscuit in Mainz, you will also send it to Würzburg. This reserve in Würzburg should be used, in case of an event, either for the observation corps of Bavaria or for the Grande Armée.

Let me know the situation in Erfurt. It is essential that there be in this central store, independently of the supply of siege, 10,000 quintals of flour, 500 quintals of rice and 1,000 of vegetables. Make me a report on this. I suppose you ordered the greatest activity in the grinds.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by M. Count Daru.

20259. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN VENICE

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

My Son, I have in Venice 5 to 6 millions of mercury, and in the Illyrian provinces many minerals. Give orders, and take measures for their execution, so that all the minerals which exist in the stores belonging to me in the Illyrian provinces are transported to Venice; so that, if the country were to be occupied by the enemy, he found nothing there. Take measures also, and I leave you white in this regard, to sell the mercury I have in Venice and get the money I need. I fear that Count Defermon will stop me from selling him because he keeps prices too high. This has made me lose funds and their interests for several years.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20260. - TO FRÉDÉRIC, KING OF WURTEMBERG, AT LUDWIGSBURG.

Dresden, July 9, 1813.

Sir, I have received your Majesty's last letter, as well as the number which M. de Linden gave to the Duke of Bassano. He[480]

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It appears that the courier who carried my letter of June 2nd has taken it. I am sending your Majesty a copy of this letter.

There is a lot of embarrassment for the negotiations for peace, and they have not started yet. They must take place in Prague. I'm waiting for an answer today or tomorrow. Austria gives herself a lot of movement, but business seems still far from being settled. It would already be without the intervention of Austria. The future will let us know what she wants.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the government of the King of Württemberg.

20261. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGHAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Wittenberg. July 11, 1813.

Cousin, order Dufour's division to leave tomorrow to go to Guben, where it will arrive on the 17th, and General Vial's to leave on the 13th to get there on the 18th. You will order that each of these Divisions leave Wittenberg with three days of provisions, and for her passage at Herzberg to take her for another three days.

Write to the Duke de Bellune to inform him of the progress of these two divisions. Give him the order to take his headquarters to Guben and evacuate the Grünberg circle entirely. He will place one of his divisions in Lieberose, one in Friedland and one in Fürstenberg: it will thus be three short days from Berlin and one from Frankfurt. Write to him to keep in touch with the Duke of Reggio, whom you will also inform of the passage of these two divisions.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. A war commissioner will go to Herzberg to order food.

From the original, Depot of War.

20262. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Magdeburg. July 12, 1813.

Cousin, I send you a letter concerning the treatment of French prisoners in England. I want you to gather at home the ministers of war, of the navy[481]

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and the police, and that you write a project to make an inquiry before a commission composed of senators and marshals, This inquiry will be public and printed; it will show all the crippled men who have returned from England.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres,

20263, - TO PRINCE CAMBACERES,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, IN PARIS,

Magdeburg, July 12, 1813,

Cousin, I recognize the necessity of giving relief to the Spanish refugees. I have instructed the Duke of Bassano to allocate a million of it on the extraordinary funds of his budget. He must have written to Count Otto, who will preside over the commission destined to set out this assistance, and who will see how it could be composed,

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres,

20264, - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF THE WAR, IN PARIS,

Magdeburg, July 12, 1813,

I have just visited Magdeburg with the greatest attention. I want you to establish in this bare city foundry, to sink balls, which will use a large amount of old irons found there. Send from France the necessary workers. I visited the gun rooms; I saw 12,000 French rifles to be repaired; but there are only about forty workers, so that in two years this repair will not be completed, I order the gunsmith company which is in Erfurt to go here, but it will not be sufficient; it would be necessary to send 2 or 300 workmen drawn from our factories: otherwise they are rifles lost for the whole campaign. There must be in Holland and Metz many gunsmiths who do nothing.

I also saw 12,000 foreign rifles. I ordered them to be unpacked in order to use them for the army.

There are many heavy cavalry sabers, but there is no light cavalry.

General Neigre builds by month 150 caissons of the Austrian model. It is proper that he continue, in order to have always at Magdeburg a reserve of a few hundred boxes. But,[482]

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with the batteries he has to supply, there will be no more field crews in this place.

I was very happy with the party that the engineer got from the funds given to him to put the place in good condition.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20265. - TO THE COUNT DAHU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Magdeburg, July 12, 1813.

Count Daru, no one has yet appeared in Magdeburg to organize the depot of the military crews, so that the inspectors sent by General Belliard will say that they have found nothing. Why do not we execute the orders?

Four to 5,000 patients can be placed here. The air is healthy, the country is beautiful; Magdeburg is a real army depot.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20266. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Magdeburg, July 12, 1813.

Count Daru, the 250 patients you have sent from Dresden have arrived here in three and a half days. As there is no shortage of Guard sailors in Dresden, let them go with as many boats as you can find, and evacuate as many wounded and sick as you can. You can direct 1,000 on Torgau, 1,000 on Wittenberg and at least 15 to 1,600 on Magdeburg. It will therefore be about 4,000 wounded or slaughtered from Dresden.

200,000 bushels of oats are loaded here to be transported to Dresden. I order that out of the 8,000 quintals of flour which were destined for General Vandamme, only 4,000 quintals be sent to Dresden.

Write to Wittenberg that the houses occupied by the university should be taken to bring to a thousand the number of hospital beds to be established in this place.

I understand these various provisions in an agenda that I have just signed.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.[483]

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20267. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT LEMAROIS, GOVERNOR OF MAGDEBURG.

Magdeburg July 12, 1813,

Count Lemarois, gather at your house the commissary and the superior food officer of the place, as well as the commander of the engineers and the artillery, to definitively settle the supply of headquarters of Magdeburg. Your first operation will therefore be to stop the column of what is necessary for this supply; as we are at the moment of harvest, it is now necessary to complete it. I think it must be established on the foot of 20,000 men and 2,000 horses for two hundred days; except, at the moment of investment, to procure wheat, fodder and livestock by military means, around the place, in as large a quantity as one can; and in such a fertile country, by beating the stage at ten leagues round, one must be able to increase this supply a great deal. The existing hay and straw will be replaced by new hay and straw, and will be put into consumption as and when replacements. These fodder will be placed on three different points, so that we never risk losing part of it. Present me a project to require the necessary hay, straw and oats within a radius of thirty leagues around the town. It is advisable to complete, at once, the supply of salted meat. As for fresh meat, there will be time to get it at the last moment: besides, there will be an existing supply fund from Hamburg. It will also be necessary to have a supply of all the necessary objects for 4,000 patients for two months.

I ordered that there should be in Magdeburg, besides the supply of siege, a fixed supply for 10,000 men for one year, half of which at the expense of the kingdom of Westphalia and the other half at the expense of France; which makes 10,000 men for six months. Let me know if the party at the expense of Westphalia has been met, as well as the part at the expense of France.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Count Lemarois.[484]

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20268. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Magdeburg, July 13, 1813.

Mr. Duke of Bassano, I received your letter of the 11th.
I will be that night in Leipzig, and in the night of the 11th, at the 15th in Dresden.
I will go from Leipzig to Dresden on the left bank.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano.

20269. - TO THE MOLLIEN COUNCIL, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Magdeburg, July 13, 1813.

Count Mollien, I received your letter of July 8th. There is no doubt that the events in Spain will add an additional $ 6 to $ 10 million to the war administration's expenditure budget. You have seen in what manner I have made this distribution, by demanding that the payments be made into vouchers and that the services be rendered by requisition. I do not disguise that there may be some inconvenience to this way of doing the service, but it seems to me without remedy. This will at least have the advantage of accelerating the sale of municipal property.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Countess Mollien.

20270. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresde, July 15th, 1813.

Cousin, write to the Duke de Bellune that you have put before me his letter of the 13th; that it only confirmed the opinion that I was wrong when he hesitated and consulted the Neumarkt commission; that the Russians themselves have made fun of it; that the Prussians would not have yielded anything, and that if on all the other points we had acted like him, we would not have even had Dessau, although Dessau was on the left bank; a question of what was right, which I therefore lost, by his hesitation, Krossen's circle and this important outlet; that I am also unhappy that he has given orders to General Vial and the 5th Division; that it is finally time to know how to obey, and also to know how to contain oneself within one's limits.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.[485]

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20271. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 15, 1813:

My Cousin, all the reports that come back to me about the portable mills present them to me as little useful in the strongholds, where mills composed of ordinary millstones, set in motion by horses or by men, are preferable, since assures that the new mills do not give sound, and therefore render only coarse flour which can be of use only in urgent circumstances.

Order the construction in the fortified places of wheels to be set in motion by horses and men; and have all the mills at Magdeburg and Dresden distributed to all corps, two in each battalion; those of Magdeburg will be donated to General Vandamme's corps. Let me know how many would be needed to give three per battalion. It should be prescribed to have them carried on the ambulance caissons of the battalions.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20272. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden. July 15, 1813.

Cousin, write on the line to all the marshals to let them know that the prolongation of the armistice was granted until the 10th of August through Austria; that, however, nothing has yet been signed by the plenipotentiaries of Neumarkt, who had no instructions and who will probably receive them in a few days; that, however, it is necessary to be ready to return to the field, if the enemy denounced the armistice on the 20th of July.

Write the same thing to Prince Eckmühl.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20273. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Dresden July 16, 1813,

Monsieur le Duke Decrès, I received your letter of July 10th. I could not share the opinion that an enemy squadron can anchor[486]

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within the Verdon, as long as you find in this harbor an anchorage distant of more than 2,400 fathoms from all points of the coast; but, certainly, such an anchorage does not exist there. I do not understand more how our ships might be attacked in Talmont Bay, unless you suppose that the enemy had made a landing. Always get the frigate in the harbor of the Gironde, since this is necessary for the cruise project for next winter.

Here is the time soon that all the frigates must have their instructions, so that they will be on board on the 15th of September.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

20274. - - TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 16, 1813.

Cousin, order the Duke of Castiglione to send Gen. Gen. Dode to cover the whole line of Bohemian frontiers, from Passau to beyond Karlsbad. This general will announce the number of outlets which, from Bohemia, go to Bavaria, distinguishing those who can serve for an army of those who can only serve for detachments. It will also indicate the positions that may or may be taken to prevent an army from coming out. He will pay special attention to the outlets that come to Baireuth, Hof, Zwickau and Chemnitz.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20275. - TO GENERAL ARRIGHI, DUKE OF PADUA,
COMMANDING THE 3rd CORPS OF CAVALRY, IN LEIPZIG.

Dresden, July 16, 1813.

Duke de Padua, I wish to have some care for Saxony, which at that moment furnishes me with 20,000 infantry and 4,000 cavalry, and who really bears the full weight of the war. Report to me on all the requisitions you have made in Leipzig, on what has been provided, and on the means of relieving the burdens imposed on this country.

Let me know how many men and horses there are at the Leipzig depot. The Prince of Neuchatel thinks there are more horses than men. It is urgent to remove the deposit of[487]

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Leipzig. If there are more horses than men, I will send you men; if, on the contrary, there were more men than horses, the surplus of men should be sent to Magdeburg.

The city of Leipzig was to supply 3,000 clothes to Wittenberg; they have not arrived yet. Take steps to hasten delivery.

It seemed to me that Leipzig was surrounded by a wall and had only a certain number of doors. My intention would be to arrange these doors so that the bourgeois guard could put the city safe from the Cossacks. I would see no difficulty in leaving a battalion of infantry and four pieces of cannon, which, with the bourgeois guard, would be enough to defend the city against 12 or 1500 Cossacks. Send me the map of the city, letting me know your opinion on this project. I want you to answer me immediately on these different requests.

I gave orders that, at Wittenberg, Magdeburg, and Torgau, all the French and Saxon goods dispatched by the Leipzig trade should be allowed to pass.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke of Padua.

20276. - TO MARECHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, At MAYENCE,

Dresden, July 16, 1813.

Cousin, let the Empress know by telegraph that the armistice is prolonged till the middle of August, and that the Duke of Vicenza and the Count of Narbonne have gone to Prague as my plenipotentiaries to the Congress.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.

20277. - TO MARECHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY, COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th and 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS, A MAVENCE.

Dresden, July 16, 1813.

My Cousin, have my house prepared in Mainz. I confide to you alone that the Empress will go on the 23rd or the 21st to Mayence, and that perhaps I will see her there. I want this not to be known in advance.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Valmy.[488]

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20278. - TO THE COUNT BIGOT OF PREAMENEU, MINISTER OF RELIGION, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

Count Bigot de Preameneu, my Minister of Religion, the bishop of Nantes (1) was the most enlightened priest of the Empire, the most distinguished doctor in the Sorbonne: he can be put beside the bishops who have most honored the Gallican Church. No one was more penetrated by the true spirit of the Gospel; no one knew better how to respect the rights of sovereigns, and to distinguish the rights of the Church from those of the monstrous abuses and the mad and foolish maxims of the court of Home, maxims so ridiculous today, which made so many blood and caused so many heartbreaks in centuries of ignorance. If all theologians, if all the bishops had as well known the spirit of religion and had had so much enlightenment and good faith, Luther, Calvin and Henry VIII would not have sect, and the whole world would be Catholic. I wish that, at the expense of our imperial treasury, a monument be erected in the cathedral of Nantes in memory of this worthy prelate.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

20279.-TO THE COUNT MOLLIEN, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

Count Mollien, I receive your letter of July 12th. I see there a state of the amortization bonds which would amount to 195 millions; but I do not know if it's money eaten. For example, the 71 million who are at the box of the crown and the extraordinary estate must be eaten. The same must be true of those brought to the Bank. I am not sure that the 62 millions who are in the service fund are also eaten: they can be there as belonging to the general fund, I can not have any idea of this case that as the accounts will be worn to the book of the month, because the isolated accounts say nothing, instead of a general account in which everything is carried in the same hypothesis offers me much better all things. It would be necessary to add to the booklet a statement for the sums of the sinking fund, as you have added a statement for bonds.

But I think that this is not enough, and that it should be mentioned in addition to the article on customs revenue, and vis-à-vis

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1) Father Duvoisin,[489]

revenues from the sales of the communal domains, the portion of these vouchers, not of those which you received, but of those which you have eaten, that is to say, negotiated and made to burst in payments. For the rest, this is an accounting detail, and you are better able than I to judge what is suitable in this respect. I only wish that in the next state you put what is necessary to clarify the situation of the good ones. Ordinary sums of the sinking fund can not enter into the receipts, since you are not entitled to any, and if it is at the cash register, it is like a bill of exchange or money; so there is no recipe for them. If I say badly, you will rectify me.

In the article of the Customs Bonds, it would be necessary to put: the payment on the fifty licenses has been evaluated so much; it was perceived both in money; it was therefore presumptuous to receive only so much; for this sum, so many good ones have been created, of which so many have been treasured and given in payment. The same mention will be made for the good communals. You feel the need to make it fit with the accounts of the month; for, at last, reading this booklet, and recapitulating my resources, I would make a false reasoning if I said: I had to receive 148 millions of vouchers from the communes; I received only one million, so I have 147 million to receive. This calculation would be false, if at the same time the treasury had used in its payments 147 million vouchers, since this resource would thus be eaten in advance. Arrange these states so that they leave me in no doubt and there is no duplication.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by Madame Count Mollien.

20280. - TO MARECHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 13th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAMBURG.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

My Cousin, my orderly official who had gone to Groningen, arrives; he assures me that all that I have ordered to be sent to Hamburg has left, even the reserve batteries, and that the first convoy must have arrived today. The Duke of Valmy also asks me that the 200,000 kilograms of powder, which were to be sent from Wesel, must have arrived at Hamburg. Thus Hamburg, for the artillery, in the most respectable situation. I suppose the work is going on making the whole month of July with greater activity, and that by August 15, when we could[490]

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to resume hostilities, Hamburg will be in a situation of equally respectable defense.

I still wish that with all the 13th corps, that is, the 3rd and 40th divisions, having in stock all that will be available from the 50th, all your field artillery, and lastly, the Danes, you can occupy a camp on the right bank, in front of Hamburg, so that having about twenty thousand men in your hand you are unassailable to the superior forces, and that you may yet threaten them and to contain until a corps of 80,000 men, which I will make march on Berlin, turned all this and made you able to walk forward. At the same time, your presence in front of Hamburg, thus having an offensive position, will have the advantage of forcing the enemy to have forces on your side, and to prevent him from concentrating against the army that I have. will send on Berlin.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20281. - TO THE GENERAL COMTE SORBIER, COMMANDING THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

It is likely that the campaign will start from August 15th to 20th. The first operation will block Küstrin and Stettin. It would be necessary, then, to have all the bolts, powder, and ammunition of artillery at Glogau ready to complete the supply of these two places; so that if, eight days after, the army went in another direction, the places remained perfectly supplied under the point of view of the artillery.

I, therefore, wish you to draw up the state of the armaments of Küstrin and Stettin, and to make known to me what is wanting, according to the reports of the officers recently arrived from these places. As these supplies will have to be drawn from Glogau, it is indispensable to gather in that place all that will be necessary, and to secure the boats which will have to transport them on Stettin and Küstrin.

Another operation, which will also be the first of the campaign, will be the siege of Spandau: it is accordingly that I have ordered you to prepare a siege crew at Magdeburg, Torgau and Wittenberg, in order to to direct him on Spandau when it is time, and to be able to take this place in a few days.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,[491]

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20282. - TO THE COUNT DAHU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

Count Daru, one of the first operations of the campaign, which will probably start from August 15th to 20th, will be the refueling of the Stettin and Küstrin places, I want you to tell me what will be missing on September 1st in these two places, to be able to replenish them, in proportion to the garrison they have, until next June 1st.

The ordering officer Daure will make these statements in two parts: 1st) what will be shipped to Glogau, and 2nd) what will be found in the vicinity of these places. For flour and wheat, at least half of what is needed will be shipped to Glogau, and the rest will be procured in the neighborhood. For rice, it will be necessary to have in Glogau all the necessary quantity. For vegetables, we can find them around places. The wines, the water-of-life, the medicines, it would be necessary to have them in Glogau, to embark them on the Oder. The woods, the fodder, the oats, the live meat, we would find them twenty leagues around the places. Salted meats, you should have prepared them in Glogau.

Do me a reasoned work on this, and based on the last situation stalls you have received. The effects of necessary clothing, shirts, shoes, etc., will be shipped to Glogau. Bring me a statement that everything can be clearly seen at Glogau and ready for boarding down the Oder to Küstrin el Stettin.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20283. - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

Count Daru, it would be necessary to send from Magdeburg, Wittenberg, and Dresden a sufficient supply of wine for the hospice of Glogau, which seems to be lacking.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.[492]

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20284. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MONZA.

Dresden, July 17, 1813.

My Son, I receive your letter of July 11th. I send to the Illyrian provinces the Duke of Otranto as governor, and General Fresia to command the troops. I ordered the Minister of War Administration to expedite the dispatch of the bags and bags of skin that you still lack. I think hostilities will only begin around August 15, so you have another month. I suppose General Grenier is already in Udine with two or three divisions. Hurry as you can organize your troops.

I have been waiting for a long time for the Croatian hussar regiment; let me know when he has gone to Verona, and where he is now.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S. A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20285. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT HOGENDORP, GOVERNOR OF HAMBURG.

Dresden, July 18, 1813.

General Hogendorp, I receive your letter of July 14th. I see that you have just experienced a new misfortune: you have lost your last child. I share in your sorrows, and I desire that the assurance I give you may be of some consolation to you.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by the Count de Hogendorp Jr.

20286. - - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 19, 1813.

Cousin, you will write the attached letter to the commissioners of Neumarkt. They may give an uncertified copy to the commissioners of the allies, but saying that this letter was not made to be communicated to them, and that they do so only to give them better knowledge of my thoughts.

They will observe how this contradiction between the general-in-chief and the diplomatic agents is harmful, and how unfortunate it is for trifles to delay a negotiation which might bring peace. They will say that the Duke of Vicenza has not gone to[493]

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because of this uncertainty, and will not leave until the prolongation of the armistice is signed in Neumarkt, because in military affairs we can only rely on this signature guaranteed by military honor. and not to diplomatic forms, too often belied by foreign powers; but that two hours after the reception of the signature of Neumarkt the Duke of Vicenza will leave for Prague, They will add, in the speech, that one could immediately denounce the armistice and continue the negotiations while one would fight .

Recommend to the commissioners to try to know where the Emperor Alexander is.

NAPOLEON.

To MR. MOUSTIER AND FLAHAULT, COMMISSIONERS FOR ARMISTICE, NEUMARKT.

Gentlemen, I have been able to see with the greatest difficulty the letter of General Barclay de Tolly to MM. the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries.

The French army never needed the armistice, and if Her Majesty had thought that July 20 would arrive without any negotiation being possible, she would never have acceded to the suspension of hostilities. In fact, the proposal of the armistice did not take place until a few days after a battle won; the Allied armies would have been obliged to return to the Vistula. The corps of General Voronzof, who had embarked on Leipzig, had a French army of 15,000 men two days from Dessau, who was maneuvering on his deck; lastly, the corps of Prince Eckmühl and General Vandannne, and the Danish Auxiliary Corps, which debouched through Hamburg, were to meet at Berlin with the corps of the Duke of Bellone and the corps of the Duke of Reggio.

But, desiring peace, his Majesty has sacrificed all sorts of advantages to the hope of seeing a negotiation begun for peace.

However, the negotiation which should have been opened on the 10th of June, which, until the 20th of July, would have given the forty days which seemed necessary, could not have been begun, by the refusal of the allied powers to send their plenipotentiaries into a intermediate place. It was not until the end of June that Count Melternich had a conference with the allies, and on June 30 he came to Dresden. His Majesty did not make this proposal to prolong the armistice; because she considered this extension as contrary to her interests. Only it was proposed that in the convention where it was[494]

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to accept the mediation of Austria, it was said that negotiations would continue, even if one or the other army would denounce the armistice on July 20. This would not have been the first example that a bargain would have worked while one fought.

His Majesty, however, who is steadfast in his desire not to shed unnecessary blood, does not deny himself an extension of an armistice calculated so as to acquire the forty days which were necessary for the negotiation.

It was thought that the plenipotentiaries would meet on the 5th of July in Prague, which, on the 15th of August, would have been forty days. His Majesty therefore undertook not to denounce the armistice until the 10th of August, and Austria undertook to accede to it the allies.

Indeed, notes signed by Chancellor Hardenberg and Count Nesselrode, dated July 11, and that the Austrian Donations have transmitted, have made known that the allies have written only the 11 and that the communication of their letter n 11 was possible to arrive in Dresden on the 16th. The congress could not open on the 5th of July. At the very moment I received from you, gentlemen, the news that the plenipotentiaries of the allies had received from General-in-chief Barclay de Tolly the order to conclude an extension of the armistice. His Majesty therefore appointed for his plenipotentiaries the Duke of Vicenza and the Count of Narbonne. There was no more waiting for their powers to be expelled than the signing of the prolongation of the armistice, and it was hoped that the negotiations could begin on the 18th.

Your letter, gentlemen, keeps this hope away. General Barclay de Tolly proposes that the armistice should not take place until August 4th. His majesty sees with difficulty that for trivial things one delays the opening of an important negotiation.

His Majesty would have no difficulty in agreeing to it, if it were possible that, forced on his side not to denounce the armistice by August 10, she admitted, however, that the allies could denounce the armistice at 4. Elsewhere, the declaration of the two courts on July 11 is positive. You will point out, gentlemen, that the Congress is still delayed; that it is impossible to adhere to the proposal of General Barclay de Tolly, since the Allied Courts, through their diplomatic agents, have adhered to the Convention proposed by Austria; that the convention of mediation should then be reported, and that in truth it would be ridiculous to operate so much delay for six days.

It is necessary that the allies are formed from the position of the French army an idea as strange as they had formed before the[495]

the battle of Lützen, to suppose that hostilities can offer probabilities in their favor. They will be repulsed beyond the Vistula more quickly than they have been beyond the Elbe; they will find an army which, in infantry, cavalry, and artillery, will surprise them even more than the French armies at Lützen have surprised them, & c. I allow myself, gentlemen, this digression, because, in truth, there is disgrace and even insult in doing so with an army which should be treated at least on the basis of equality, when He even agrees to put aside any feeling of superiority. I have no doubt that General Barclay de Tolly consulted his Majesty the Emperor of Russia; but his Majesty seems to be far from his headquarters. This will still cause delays, and this will remove the opening of the congress.

However it would be impossible to negotiate, except in an equal position on both sides. It is therefore probable that before several days the congress can not take place. We will then have reached the end of the armistice without having the forty days necessary to negotiate and reach the conclusion of peace.

But his Majesty sees no difficulty in the end of the armistice expiring on August 10 without the negotiations being concluded, if one of the two belligerent parties wants to denounce the armistice, the hostilities begin on the 16th, while the Negotiations would continue, however, during the space of forty days from the Plenipotentiary Meeting, although His Majesty, always in principle, should always be ready, as long as there is a justified hope of making peace, to sacrifice the inconvenience. for her to let the enemy make fortifications on the left of the Oder and to lose the good season to arrive before winter on the Vistula. Moreover, the Plenipotentiaries, once assembled in Prague, will decide on all the questions and the action to be taken later, after the 16th of August.

You will not fail, gentlemen, to point out, moreover, that the time of the harvest of rye would be a period entirely favorable to the Emperor, since then all the inhabitants of the country are in the fields, and that Prussia, on whose territory the war would be waged, would find it all the more difficult that her harvests would be disturbed and could not be done.

As to the second question, it is consistent with the use of war. We can not dispense with it; especially since the letters we receive from Danzig, July 6, teach us[496]

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that the Prince of Wurtemberg persists in supplying food only in a very insufficient quantity; he wants to supply only a quarter of what is necessary. I take too much notice of the honor of the general-in-chief, and Baron Barclay de Tolly has given us too much proof of the loyalty of his character, not to think that he gives the proper orders to ensure the execution of what is agreed. Nevertheless, the rules of prudence and my duty require me to be in a position to render an account to the Emperor of the execution of the conditions.

P. S. The parliamentarian can be sent to the Danzig by the road that one wishes; it can be made to pass by night by places which one would not want him to see; it can even be blindfolded: all this is in keeping with military practice.

Make it clear to these gentlemen that we do not want to dictate anything under any circumstances; but that we do not want to be dictated to us, and that whenever we limit ourselves to asking for the most perfect equality, we can not refuse anything. We are engaged until August 10, so it is necessary that the allies commit themselves until August 10.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives.

20287. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL. COMMANDING THE 13th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAMBURG.

Dresden. July 19, 1813.

Cousin, I have just concluded an offensive and defensive treaty with Denmark. I will let you know the main provisions for your guidance; but you must keep them secret until further notice. Denmark undertakes to declare war on Russia, Prussia and Sweden at the time of the resumption of hostilities, just as France undertakes at the same time to declare war on Sweden. Denmark must place at your command a division of 10,000 infantry, 2,500 horses, forty pieces of cannon, which will total more than 12,000 men. These troops, as soon as they have foot on my territory, must, as for pay, be paid by me, like the French troops. Denmark will have twenty gunboats for the defense of the Elbe, which will be joined to twenty French gunboats. Denmark must supply me with 10,000 horses, subject to the payment that I will make cash. The Danish contingent may be employed until[497]

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the Vistula. Denmark must supply Arm Gluckstadt, so that this place can sustain six months of blockade and a seat proportioned to its strength.

For my part, I must join to the Danish troops an army corps of 20,000 men. If the circumstances called my troops in Holstein, they would be fed by the country, but I would pay their pay. I will supply twenty boats or gunboats for the defense of the Elbe; I will arm and supply Hamburg, so that this place can sustain six months of blockade and a seat proportioned to its strength. I have to pay 10,000 horses in cash.

The ratifications will be exchanged tomorrow in Dresden. On this occasion, a small agreement will be signed with respect to the supply of horses, to regulate their age, size and price. I requested that 5,000 be delivered to me before the 15th of August, and 5,000 before the 1st of September. It will be important to have these horses as soon as possible. It is not necessary to report the requisition, nor any market, since I have in my cavalry depots another 10 to 12,000 men to mount. Tomorrow will probably leave ratifications. You will be educated and then see the Danish general. It will be good if you pass the review of the corps; and from that moment you will make him pay, by paying the presents under arms on the French foot.

Your corps d'armee will therefore be composed of 10th of the 3rd division, which, before the 10th of August, will be composed of fourteen battalions; 2nd, 40th Division, fourteen battalions; total, twenty-eight active battalions; 3rd) of the 50th division, which will always be able to offer you twelve battalions in reserve; total, forty battalions.

I suppose that before that time you can still have 3,000 cavalry men, which will make you a corps of 25,000 French and 12,000 Danes, or 35 to 40,000 men. All these troops, taking a good position in front of Hamburg, will impose on the Prince Royal, and may take the offensive, as I have told you, as soon as my left has entered Berlin.

Your artillery will consist of two horse batteries, twelve pieces; five batteries on foot, forty; two spare batteries, sixteen; total, sixty-eight pieces.

The Danes have forty pieces: of these forty pieces, there are twenty of six, including sixteen pieces and four howitzers, and twenty pieces of 3. When you are there, you will offer them to keep their pieces of 3, and to use the teams, carters and gunners, to harness and serve eight pieces of six and four howitzers, namely twelve[498]

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rooms. These twelve pieces each need two boxes, which will make, with spares and forges, 40 wagons. The twenty pieces of 3 would require 40 wagons. The number will be equal. Only it would take a few more horses, in case the use of the Danes would be to harness the pieces of 3 with two horses. This will be eight pieces of six and four howitzers that you will provide to the Danes. As for the caissons, they will be converted into caissons of 6. The Danes will find themselves having thirty-two guns, which will be organized like ours. These thirty - two attachments to sixty - eight of your corps will make a park of one hundred pieces of cannon.

From August 10th to 15th, all that is necessary to complete the 28th of chasseurs will have arrived; that will make you 1,000 horses; you can supplement the Lithuanians to 5 or 600 horses; which, added to the 2,400 horses of the brigade of cuirassiers of Hamburg, will put under your orders more than 4,000 horses, which will make with the 2,000 Danish horses 6,000 horses. You already have three brigade generals: will remain a cavalry division general to send you to command all this cavalry.

I suppose that all that is necessary to complete the supply of Hamburg will have arrived and that Hamburg, Harburg and the islands will be well armed in the first days of August. If it is necessary, it will be necessary to neglect everything to concentrate all your forces on the right bank, relying on Hamburg. Even if the enemy crossed the Elbe between Hamburg and Magdeburg, that should have no influence on you, whose army would always have behind it Hamburg and Holstein, and, by this position on the right bank, would preserve the offensive the enemy would have passed on the left bank.

If, at the moment of the resumption of hostilities, you can even gather a greater portion of cavalry, they will leave you; she would walk with you to join the army by Berlin. You could bring with you the 1,200 horses that General Bourcier sent you. I can only repeat that this should not disturb the measures you have taken. You only need to ask for saddles from General Bourcier. I think that general can have at his disposal 3,000 saddles, and that you can have them made in Hamburg.

I'm not instructing General Bourcier of the treaty of which I have just spoken to you; tomorrow law will give communication. This general expects to have arrangements made for 12,000 horses; if we add the 10,000 horses of the Danes, that will make 22,000 horses. I believe that[499]

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General Bourcier has 11,000 men on foot to mount; it would therefore be 5 to 6,000 men on foot to bring from France. The other 5,000 would be taken from the cavalry depots, as the active cavalry would have dismounted men. Consider this climb of the Danes as increasing our means without asking for any of the measures you have taken.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Marechal Princess Eckmühl.

20288. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MONZA.

Dresden, July 19, 1813.

My son, I'm getting your letter of July 14th. I sent the Duke de Otrante as governor of the Illyrian provinces. He will pass by Gretz; he will go to see you. Ask him at length what he saw at Grotez, and send me a report.

Write to the minister to send you brigade generals Redouhlez precaution everywhere to guarantee you of the plague. You must not suffer brigade generals to be chiefs of staff; there must be in these places only commanding warrant officers. Consequently, have General Dupeyroux enter a division.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A.I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.

20289. - TO THE GENERAL HAXO, COMMANDING THE ENGINEERS OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 19, 1813.

Leave before midnight to go to Luckau. I will leave myself at two o'clock in the morning to go there. I will take the road to Grossenhayn; take the road to Hoyerswerda. You will see Luckau and Lübben, and you will be able to receive my orders, my intention being to establish in these two places, and by the aid of water and palisades, a place where three battalions with twenty pieces of cannon can put in the shelter a bakery, a hospital and some reserve ammunition. Colonel Blin has already done this work. These places must be ready for use on the 15th of August. I send you the plans and reports that were given to me on these two localities.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.[500]

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20290.-TO PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT LUCKAU.

Luckau, July 20, 1813.

Cousin, order the Duke of Ragusa to put the place of Bunzlau safe from a knack, and in a condition to resist for several days a vanguard of infantry and cavalry. Give the same order to General Reynier for the place of Goerlilz, and to the Prince of Moskova for the place of Liegnitz. It is necessary that in each of these places two battalions of infantry, with two or three pieces of cannon, can defend themselves well. The main means of defense are water and wood. Finally, I wish that in a fortnight hospitals, stores, convalescent stores, & c., Should be protected from all attacks by light infantry and enemy cavalry.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20291. - TO THE COUNT DAHU, DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Luckau, July 20, 1813.

Count Daru, the transport employee who brought the convoy of 4,000 quintals of flour, leaving more than a quarter on the way; we even think he sold some of them. In this connection, make a serious investigation, my intention being, if found guilty, to have exemplary justice done to it.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20292. - To M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 22, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I send you a report from the Minister of War. Send a copy to my minister in Kassel. As soon as the convention is signed (1) these 1,200 men will be at the King's disposal. If the agreement is not signed, then we will take my orders to direct them to the Magdeburg depot.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Foreign Affairs Archives.

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1) Convention relating to the formation of a body of French troops intended for the custody of the King of Westphalia.[501]

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20293. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Dresden, July 22, 1813.

Cousin, I receive your letter of July 17th. I returned this morning from a race of about fifty leagues which I made in Lower Lusatia.

I suppose the Empress has left and will go to bed tonight at Chalons. I do not think it is before the 25th at Mainz; I intend to be there for that day.

NAPOLEON

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres,

20294. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRES,
MINISTER OF THE MARINE IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 22, 1813,

I receive your letter of July 16th. You must take for the navy a third of the Dutch; I will take back a thousand old Frenchmen later. But the Dutch are worthless for the service of land; they have only water in their legs.

According to the minute. Empire Archives,

20295. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM,
MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 23, 1813,

Cousin, write to the marshals who command the different corps d'army that I wish them to review their corps in the first days of August, in order to propose to all the vacant places and to dismiss all the officers who, by their age or for any other reason, would be unable to campaign.

Order also that one fires at the target, and that each marshal establish a price per company, or by battalion, for the one who will draw the best, the goal is not only to exercise the troop, but also to put a little gaiety and interest in the camps. Finally it is proper to establish all kinds of games and all that can give emulation. As my feast falls about the time of the rupture of the armistice, propose me a measure for the army to celebrate it the previous Sunday, which is the 8th of August. Preparations that will be done in all camps will amuse[502]

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all the soldier. Let me know what was done in Vienna at a similar time.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20296. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 23, 1813.

Order that the entire army fire at the target in the following manner.

Each company will take a shot at the target, and the nine best shooters will have a bonus of 3 francs.

The nine best shooters from each company will meet to fire at the target per battalion, which will be fifty-four per battalion; the nine best fencers will each have a prize of 6 francs.

The nine best fencers of each battalion will meet to fire at the target by division, which, supposing the divisions the one carrying the other of twelve battalions, will make one hundred and eight fencers by division; the nine best will each have a prize of 12 francs.

The nine best fencers who have won the prize of each division will be reunited to shoot at the target, which, at the rate of three divisions per army corps, will make twenty-seven fencers; and the nine best corps shooters will each have a prize of 20 francs.

On July 27, each company will shoot at the target.

On the 28th, the nine best shooters from each company will fire at the battalion target.

On the 29th, the nine best fencers from each battalion will fire at the division's target.

On August 1, the nine best division plow shooters will fire at the corps target.

The expenditure of this exercise, which will take place in all the corps d'army, will be only one cartridge per man, and, as far as the prices are concerned, the expenditure may be evaluated as follows:

1st *prize of 3 francs, target companies*. - Nine prizes of 3 francs will cost 21 francs per company; which will make for a battalion, at the rate of six companies, 162 francs; for one division, at the rate of twelve battalions, 1,944 francs; and for a corps d'army, at the rate of three divisions per army corps, 5,832 francs.

2nd *Prize of 6 francs, target of the battalions*. - Nine prizes of 6 francs will cost 54 francs per battalion: what will make for a division, to[503]

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for twelve battalions, 648 francs, and for a corps d'armee, at the rate of three divisions, 1,944 francs.

3rd *Prize of 12 francs, division target*. - Nine prices of 12 francs will cost 108 francs per division; which will make, by corps, at the rate of three divisions, 324 francs.

4th *Prize of 20 francs, target by Corps*. - Nine prices of 20 francs will cost 180 francs per corps.

Thus the expense of the prizes will be per army corps: for the target of, companies, 5,832 francs; for the target of brooms, 1,944 francs; for the division target, 324 francs; for the target of the army corps, 180 francs; total, 8,280 francs. Thus, for ten army corps, it would be an expense which would not exceed a little 80,000 francs. Those who obtain the price of the army corps, 20 francs, will have obtained that of the division, 12 francs, that of the battalion, 6 francs, and that of the company, 3 francs; which will make them a total price of 41 francs.

The marshals will prescribe all that will be necessary to make these exercises so many small feasts. The music will accompany those who have won the awards. My aim being 1st) to teach the troops to shoot, 2nd) to cheer up the camp, you will recommend that we do all we can to obtain these two results.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20297. - TO THE GENERAL LACUÉE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 23, 1813.

It has been a long time since you sent me a military crews report, so that, with the exception of the battalions that are at the Grande Armée, namely the 2nd, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 12th 14th, 15th, 17th, which is nine, I do not know where the others are. They are probably in Spain. Men must have brought their horses back; there would be only wagons to give them.

From the minute, archives of the Empire.

20298. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 24, 1813.

Cousin, tell General Vandamme that it is probable that his corps will operate by Wittenberg; that I desire him to take his measures so that on the 10th of August he will have twenty days of food;[504]

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know: four days of bread, six days of biscuit and ten days of flour. He will obtain this from the princes of Dessau. He must also have an assured supply of meat and brandy for twenty days. You will let him know that the 1st, 2nd and 3rd companies of the 10th Battalion of the military crews are destined for his army corps. He must already have a part of the 1st company, and he will soon receive the rest of this one and the 2nd company, which are organized in Cassel. The 3rd company is organized in Wesel, from where it will join it. As soon as General Vandamme has two of these companies, he will send the company of the 14th Battalion to the Duke of Bellune.

Tomorrow, July 25th, four battalions of the 6th Division *bis* are to arrive at Magdeburg, so there will be at Magdeburg two Westphalian battalions, two battalions of the 134th, two battalions of the 4th Polish regiment and four battalions of the 6th division *bis*; total, ten battalions. As soon as these ten battalions are assembled at Magdeburg, which I suppose to be on the 25th or the 26th, General Vandamme will dispatch the Teste division, to approach a march in Tessau, carrying his headquarters to Koethen or Bernburg. so that the Philippon division could, in one march, pass the bridge of Wittenberg; that the 2nd division can pass it in two steps, and that the 23rd division can pass it in three steps.

Recommend to General Vandamme to take charge of the formation of the 9th Lancers and the Dessau Regiment. He must now have all his battalions; let him know that I hope that, after the review, which he is to pass on the 5th of August, he will report that he has all his infantry, all his artillery, his ambulances, his administrations, & c.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20299. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Dresden, July 24, 1813.

Cousin, I thought I had given the order for a long time to lift the state of siege of the city of Leipzig. Order the Duke of Padua to inform the circle of this town that he has been exempted from the various supplies which have been demanded of him; that if the circle had made preparations or purchases for this supply, they would take them for a fee.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[505]

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20300. - TO MARSHAL DAVOUT, PRINCE OF ECKMUHL, COMMANDING THE 13th CORPS OF THE GREAT ARMY IN HAMBURG.

Dresden. July 24, 1813.

Cousin, the hostilities can only begin again on the 16th of August.

I suppose that from the 1st of August all your gates will be organized, your ramparts filled with artillery and the place in perfect state of defense. I suppose that the governor, the commanders of artillery and engineers, the second in command of the place, the rear-admiral, the gunboats, that everybody will finally be at his post, and that the inhabitants will have been disarmed. Established a strict police, organized the service of the pumps, and that I will be without concern on the fate of this important place.

The 50th division will be at August 10th strong of 12,000 men; you can then divide it in two, leave 4 to 5,000 men for the guard of Hamburg (and make you a good division of 6 to 7,000 men), which, together with the men of the cavalry depot and the artillery, to the sailors, the gendarmerie, the customs, will always ensure a garrison of 8,000 French in Hamburg. You feel it would be ridiculous to hold the entire 50th Division to do nothing in Hamburg, as long as the position you take will cover this place.

Thus you will be able to gather in this position the 3rd strong division of 8,000 men; the 40th, 9,000 men; the active part of the 50th, of 6,000 men; French infantry, 23,000 men; Danish infantry, 10,000 men; total infantry, 33,000 men; French cavalry, 3,000 men; Danish cavalry, 2,000 men; total of the cavalry, 5,000 men; overall total, 38,000 men. Your four divisions will have their artillery, four military crews, their ambulances, etc., which will make an army of more than 40,000 men. I wish that on the 5th of August these 10,000 men should be encamped in front of Hamburg, in a good position, having infantry and cavalry positions on the cordon; that, by this offensive position, you can restrain the Swedish army and all that the enemy has in Mecklenburg, and prevent him from going to Berlin to meet an army of 60,000 men whom I shall send there ; that at last you are ready to follow the watchful eye of the enemy, or to attack him if he were in inferior force. You may have some detachments of infantry and cavalry along the Elbe, but in such a way that you can retreat them promptly when hostilities resume, so[506]

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that your troops are all together, and that you have no fear or scuffle.

The Minister of War must have announced to you the different detachments of the 50th Division which are arriving; so you must know what to do with it. Press the arrival of all your detachments and all your cavalry returns. Let me know where you want to camp your four divisions. I suppose you'll have your food in flour and biscuit for a month. I also suppose that you will have acquainted yourself with the Danish corps. Do not wait until the last moment to concentrate all the French troops, which will not prevent you from occupying Lubeck by a French commander, by the gendarmerie and some positions of light cavalry and French voltigeurs. Let me know positively what you think you will have cavalry on August 15, either on foot or on horseback. You know all the provisions that have been made in this regard.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame the Marechal Princess Eckmuhl.

20301. - TO THE GENERAL LAKE, COUNT DE CESSAC, MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden. July 24, 1813.

Count de Cessac, you will see the measures I have taken for the twenty-one cavalry regiments of the Spanish army to have seventy-three squadrons forming about 15,000 men. At sight of country, it is 3 to 4,000 horses that will have to be procured. Propose me a market or a division between the different departments. You will notice that I only spoke to 180 men the squadrons of dragoons. I think that this cavalry for the Army of Spain will be sufficient. With a strength of 15 to 16,000 men, one can always have 12,000 men present under arms. If that were not enough, we would see another squadron organized in France or in the squadrons of war. Moreover, if hostilities recommenced here, the 4th squadron of each regiment would be reorganized, so that instead of seventy-three squadrons, there would be ninety-four.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[507]

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20302. - TO THE GENERAL LAKE, COUNTY OF CESSAC,
MINISTER DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WAR, IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 24, 1813.

Monsieur le Comte de Cessac, you will see by my decree that instead of a battalion of military crews for the army of Spain I want two. To complete these battalions, take all the wagons that are at Sampigny. Present me a draft decree to regulate the number of horses that must be raised to complete the teams of these two battalions. I already gave you the mules. Pass this service before that of the 7th companies of the battalions of the Grande Armée. To walk more quickly, go straight ahead to organize these two battalions, by first organizing three companies from one to the other. You will find cars in Bayonne, Bordeaux and throughout the Midi. wagons # 1 and # 2 are also good.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20303. - TO THE BARON DE LA BOUILLERIE,
GENERAL TREASURER OF THE CROWN AND EXTRAORDINARY DOMAIN IN PARIS.

Dresden, July 24, 1813.

My intention is to have always 4 millions in reserve in the case of Sieur Peyrusse; these 4 million are for the needs of the army and must have nothing in common with the service of the House. Of these 4 million reserves, there must be no payment only under an order from me. At this moment, the payer has only 3,480,000 francs; I leave aside the 480,000 francs for the service of the House, and I only find 3 millions for the reserve: it is therefore a million that you must send to bring this reserve to 4 millions. But I have 600,000 francs, which I charge Monsieur Peyrusse to pay to Mainz in the paymaster-general's coffers, against drafts of the imperial treasury; thus this payer will have only 2,400,000 francs in cash, so that you will have to send him 1,600,000 francs. I desire you to make all your arrangements so that these 1,600,000 francs have arrived at Mayence before the 10th of August.

As for the funds for the service of the House, you must provide for it according to the budget of each head of department and according to the needs, without that I enter for nothing in this accountancy.

According to the copy. Archives of the Empire.[508]

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20304. - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Mainz, July 27, 1813.

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I refer you to discussions with the Poles. Give all the orders you deem appropriate. I have referred to you from the beginning, and I still refer to you: I do not want to change anything that diminishes your responsibility. If, on the 10th of August, the Poles are well dressed, equipped and armed, you will have fulfilled my intentions; if they are neither dressed nor equipped nor armed, you will have served me poorly.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by the Duke de Bassano

20305, - TO M. MARET, DUKE DE BASSANO,
MINISTER OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, IN DRESDEN.

Mainz. July 27, 1813,

Mr. Duke de Bassano, I receive your letter of July 25th.

I had long been informed of the new position taken by the Russian army. This must serve you in your conversations with the Count de Bubna and in your letters to the Comte de Narbonne, to make known how critical was the position of the enemy at the moment when I concluded the armistice; that the position they have taken since is a natural position; that the armistice has been of real utility only for the enemy; that, as for me, I only consented to it in the hope of arriving at peace.

I arrived here in forty-two hours. I found the Empress in good health,

NAPOLEON

From the original. Archives, Foreign Affairs.

20306.- TO MOLLIEN COUNT, MINISTER OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY, IN PARIS.

Mainz. July 27, 1813.

Count Mollien, my intention is that out of the budget for external relations, in the year 1813, one million be collected for relief to be granted to Spanish refugees. I have entrusted the Minister of State Otto with the distribution of this aid, which will have to be paid at the rate of 200,000 francs a month, since the 1st of July. Warn Count Otto; that he write to the Duke of Bassano for the ordinances of July and August; that he should at once make the state of the aid to be granted for July, and that he should make pay. He will do for[509]

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august another state which will be sent to the Duke of Bassano, to be submitted to my approval.

NAPOLEON

From the original comm. by Madame Countess Mollien.

20307. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mainz. July 21, 1813.

I receive your letter of July 20th. On the 1st of July, he had 290,000 rifles, either new, or dragoons, or foreign; during July, August, September, October, November, and December, 110,000 rifles will be made: on January 1st, 1814, I will have 400,000 rifles. For the rifles to be repaired, you will repair 60,000 of them by the 1st of January: it would be necessary to activate these repairs, so that all was repaired by next January 1. At present, of these 400,000 rifles it is necessary to remove the consumptions, the rifles which were to be distributed on the 1st of July to the troops and national guards, and lastly, what will be consumed in the rest of the year. As the 30,000 of Erfurt are carried in the existing, they must be considered as consumed and, at all events, bringing 120,000 more for the consumption of the rest of the year, consumption would amount to 150,000 rifles, assuming no new conscription. -400,000, that the consumption is supposed to be 150,000, so there would be 250,000 weapons, so assuming the lifting of the 1814 conscription, it would use 120,000 rifles.

By estimating only 60,000 the number needed before January 1st, that would reduce our existing in France to 190,000. I suppose that in January, February and March you will make 55,000, which would arm the rest of the conscription, so that we would arrive on April 1, 1814, having armed all the conscription and having 190,000 rifles. We must therefore activate our means of repair and construction everywhere.

I see on state No. 2 that there are only 1,400 guns in Brest; it takes at least 12,000 to arm the workers and crews. See if the navy has any; if she does not have one, try to complete this number of rifles on this important point.

I see that there are 12,000 rifles in Toulon; that number would not be enough either; at least 20,000 are needed. I guess the Navy is over 8,000.

I think it is fitting that you have at Antwerp, Cherbourg, Brest, La Rochelle, and Toulon, enough to arm the 1st) the workers of the arsenals,[510]

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2nd all the crews, since in case of event they would defend the places.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20308. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUKE DECRES,
MINISTER OF THE MARINE IN PARIS

Mainz, 2; July 1813.

I do not see any difficulty for the inscription that you want to put at the bottom of the Cherbourg basin. Put medals of all kinds there: Denon can give you some of them in copper.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20309. - TO DAHU COUNTY,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Mainz, July 27, 1813.

Count Daru, the hospitals at Erfurt are very bad; you must send supplies to be able to establish the 4,000 patients. It is also necessary that the garrison is nourished stores, because this country is crushed and very miserable. I am expecting tomorrow three of the principal inhabitants, with whom I intend to arrange the affairs of Erfurt.

I have ordered that 3,000 convalescents at Erfurt should be led in five or six marching battalions on Magdeburg, where they will be armed and dressed. The clothing stores still do not contain anything in Erfurt. When will we start to build clothing stores in this country?

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

20310. - TO THE GENERAL COUNT SORBIER,
COMMANDER THE ARTILLERY OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Mainz. July 21, 1813.

I ordered Luckau to be protected from a coup de main: see the General of Engineers to concoct the armament. I ordered Bunzlau also to be protected from a coup de main: consult also with the engineer to find out how many pieces are needed. I ordered that Stolpen be put in stall: see also the armament which will be necessary there. Submit all this to my approval.[511]

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It is essential that from 10 to 15 August these points are armed.

For the depots of cartridges, it is better to have them at Luckau for the Duke of Reggio's corps, and at Bunzlau for the other corps, since these places will be protected from coup de main.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20311. - TO EUGENE NAPOLEON, VICE-KING OF ITALY, IN MONZA.

Mainz, July 28, 1813, in the morning.

My son, I receive your letter of the twentieth. I told you yesterday that I had come to spend a few days at Mayeuce, and that I would be returning to Dresden in the first days of August.

The observation corps of Bavaria, which is now at Baireuth, Bamberg, and Wurzburg, becomes very handsome.

You must not rely on the battalions that were destined for your army and which were in Brittany. You can count on those who were in Provence; they are ordered to leave.

It is likely that hostilities will only begin on August 16th or 17th. It is therefore indispensable that on the 10th of August, you have your headquarters at Udine, that all your troops should be assembled there, and that you may, on the 11th, set out for Gretz. The 1st of hussars and the 31st of chasseurs, who return from Spain, each complete with 1,200 men in Vienna in Dauphine. Until this hour, I do not know that there is an Austrian army at Gretz and Klagenfurt. The passage of the Duke of Otranto and that of General Fresia must have given you very positive information on this subject. I wish you to send me as soon as possible a report which will inform me of the position of your army on the 1st of August, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and what will be the situation on August 1st, as well as the place that each division and battalion will occupy at this latter time.

I countermanded the movement of the two foreign regiments. However, you could draw from each regiment a lion broom which you would hold in observation on the rear, if only to guarantee the coast and suppress the insurrections, without however to advance these battalions in the direction of Germany.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by S.A. I. The Duchess of Leuchtenberg.[512]

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20312. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT LUCKAU MAYENCE.

Mainz, July 28, 1813.

Cousin, did I order that the 32nd Division, commanded by General Teste, leave Magdeburg to draw near Dessau, taking a position at Koethen? Have you warned General Vandamme that he will emerge from Wittenberg, and that all his divisions must be ready; that all Wittenberg will have behind him, and that I wish him to secure thirty days of food? If you have not given these orders, give them at once, and order General Vandamme to send me an officer to Dresden on August 3rd to inform me of his situation on the 2nd of August.

Warn the Duke of Padua that on the 10th of August he will receive the order to march; let him know what will be the situation of his army corps at that time; that all his cavalry must be in order. Ask him what strength he has; if he has his ambulance; if the regiments have their regimental ambulance; if each soldier has his four irons hanged on his saddle, which is of a great necessity. Write to him to make sure to have ten days of food; that it is probable that he will pass the Elbe at Wittenberg; that he must leave no one in Leipzig; that all that would be the deposit and not yet mounted, he must send to Magdeburg; that all baggage and other effects should be directed to Magdeburg or Wittenberg; that, finally, his measures must be such that, if the enemy came to Leipzig, nothing should be done to the corps except the hospitals which they are obliged to leave, and it is probable, moreover, that the enemy will not come there; that it is necessary for him to visit the hospitals to make them go away as and when convalescents, dressed or not, and to direct them on Wittenberg, where they will be placed in the deposit of their body, where they will be dressed and armed; that it is also necessary that he should evacuate to France all the men who would be out of service, and that he urges all sick or wounded officers to be evacuated to France, if they can no longer serve, or less to shut up in the strongholds. Finally, recommend to the Duke of Padua to take all his measures to enter the field. Tell him that I suppose that by August 10 his corps will be 9,000 combatants, including officers.

NAPOLEON

From the original. Deposit of the war.[513]

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20313. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE, MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mayence, July 28, 1813.

Our Rhine frontier is incomplete, and it is necessary to complete it. For that, it would be necessary to fill the void which exists between Mainz and Wesel, by making places in Cologne and in Coblentz. It would not be places of deposit. Mainz and Wesel are sufficient in this respect; they would be definitive points which would serve as a rally, and which would disturb the enemy if he wished to pass on this side.

I have, in time, visited the precincts of Cologne. It could easily be sheltered from a coup de main, and 4,000 men, having for them the inhabitants, would defend this city against any enterprise of light troops, until the arrival of the siege crew. The expenses to be made for this are not considerable; they would, moreover, be made successively. Everything would consist in establishing on this point a beautiful citadel, a pentagon for example, or a hexagon capable of all the defense of which this kind of work is susceptible. This pentagon, or hexagon, would have two or three of its sides on the Rhine side; he would then really have only three fronts of attack. He should defend the navigation of the river, dominate the city and shelter it, and protect a bridgehead that would be on the right.

Thus, with an expenditure of a few millions, one would be constantly master of the great city of Cologne, one would occupy it during all the war, one would be master of the bridge, and it would be only at the arrival of an artillery of a considerable siege, which, the breach being made in the enclosure, the 4 or 5,000 men of garrison would retire in the citadel, and there would defend themselves during all the time of resistance which this kind of work contains. This is the only way to occupy a big city with few men and spending little money.

The second point is that of Coblentz. I think that should be reduced to Ehrenbreitstein's position. Can one, with a few millions, put oneself in a position to reoccupy Ehrenbreitstein, to set up a bridge, and the crossing of the river, to lead to the right bank, and absolutely forbid navigation?

If it were true that, by spending a few millions for these two works, it would be assured, with the sole employment of 8 to 10,000 men, to occupy these two important posts, it would be difficult to make better use of his money and better complete the military league.

The time has come when I want to seriously take care of the establishment[514]

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of these places. I have often agitated the question, and I have just told you that I have long since stopped. It is up to the engineering corps to submit projects that can fulfill my intentions.

I occupy Coblentz, because it is one of the great outlets of Germany and France, because it is at the mouth of the Moselle, which is a great channel of communication with Metz, because it is one of the most beautiful positions known, and that I can get a great result with little money.

We have long swayed between Cologne and Bonn; but, occupying Coblentz, Bonn would be too near, and besides, Cologne must be occupied as a great city. It is a beautiful bridgehead on the Rhine. But in the present situation, an army which would arrive there and seize it would be a point of support for vast operations, a beautiful place of repository and great resources. It must therefore be occupied. With Cologne and Coblentz occupied, the enemy can not draw any part of Bonn, and there are no more places to Wesel; on the left bank there are no longer any small towns which offer no resources to an army.

I, therefore, wish the engineers and the chief inspector to present me as soon as possible a plan for Ehrenbreitstein and for the establishment at Cologne of a citadel with the properties mentioned above. It is always necessary that the ground is well leveled, so that this winter I can take a party, start work in the spring and push them with a great activity.

Once this system is adopted, the fortifications of Bonn will have to be completely razed so that there is no kind of position which can serve as a bridgehead for the enemy.

We must also study the work in such a way that in a few years we arrive at a result: it is an art that engineers neglect too much in the conduct of their work.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20314. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE, ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Mainz. July 29, 1813.

Cousin, I am sending you a decree which I have just taken. There are, no doubt, among the members of the commission that I have appointed individuals who are not at present in Paris,[515]

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and that will have to come; but we can proceed without them. I thought that in this juncture the names were for many.

Count Otto will act as Public Prosecutor, as will Count Mole.

You will make the commission well aware that my intention is to oblige, at whatever cost, the English to give up the pontoons. The sailor, even the most exercised, is reluctant to live on the sea; he contracts diseases of a particular kind. There can be no doubt that if the pontoons are favorable to the English, their use is no less an act of barbarism. We need to hear a lot of witnesses, and publicly, to see how our prisoners are treated.

The work must be done in this sense, that it be established that the prisoners must be able to walk and breathe the air of the earth.

The result of the inquiry will be sent to the Transport Office, and it will be declared that if pontoons are not abolished, and prisoners are not placed in towns and on land, according to the custom of all countries, it will be used in retaliation and established in France pontoons of the same form, of the same nature, on which will be placed the same number of individuals who are enclosed on the English pontoons.

It is in this sense that the investigation must be made, and it must be given a lot of publicity. It is up to the sailors to declare how much the air of the sea is contrary to people who are healthy, dangerous, and so on.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.

20315, - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, AT MAVENCE.

Mainz, July 29, 1813.

My cousin, order the 42d division to leave tomorrow, 30th, from Baireuth, to go to Hof, where she will arrive on the 1st.

Let the Duke de Castiglione know that I will leave here the first evening; that I will be on the 2nd morning in Würzburg; that I will see there the two divisions, all that there is of his corps in Würzburg, as well as the citadel, and that I will then continue my road for Bamberg, where I will see, on the evening of the 2nd, the other two divisions; that, on the 3rd, I shall see the division which is at Baireuth, that which is at Hof, and the cavalry of General Milhaud; so that I shall return to Dresden on the night of the 3rd.[516]

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Also let General Pajol know that there are escorts everywhere; but recommend that we keep the secret. It will be the Prince of Neuchâtel who is supposed to pass. I want to reach Würzburg, Bamberg and Baireuth, in the most perfect incognito; I do not even know that I'm coming. The Duke of Castiglione and General Pajol must be alone in secret, and tell them that the secret is all the more necessary that it would be possible for it to change.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20316. - TO THE PRINCE OF NEUCHATEL AND WAGRAM, MAJOR GENERAL OF THE GREAT ARMY, MAYENCE.

Mainz, July 29, 1813.

Cousin, order General Nansouty to take command of the Guard cavalry. He will enjoy the treatment he enjoyed in the past campaign as commander of a cavalry corps. You will let him know that he has to be returned to Dresden on the 1st or at the latest on August 2nd. He will take and receive my orders through Count Lobau. The latter will take the title of aide-major of the Guard. You will prescribe that these two appointments be put to the order of the Guard.

Order also that General Friant command the division of the old Guard, of which General Curial will command the brigade of chasseurs and General Michel the brigade of grenadiers.

Confer with Count Lobau, and present me the organization of the offices which are necessary for him to be able properly to fulfill the functions of auxiliary of a body as considerable as the Guard, in infantry, cavalry, artillery and administration.

NAPOLEON.

From the original. Deposit of the war.

20317, - TO GENERAL CAULAINCOURT, DUKE OF VICENCE, PLENIPOTENTIARY MINISTER AT THE CONGRESS OF PRAGUE.

Mainz, July 29, 1813.

The Duke of Vicenza, the Duke of Bassano tells me that you arrived on the 27th in Prague. I am sending you an orderly officer to give you some news. I expect to be the 3rd in Dresden, and probably the 2nd in Baireuth.

The Duke of Dalmatia entered Spain on the 24th, at the head of his army, which is nearly 100,000 men and provided with a large[517]

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artillery. He was walking on Pamplona to unlock this place. The English retreated and were surprised at this prompt movement, which they were far from expecting. I await the news that he has forced the English to raise the siege of Pamplona, or that there has been a battle. This is for your guidance.

From August 15 to 30, 12,000 men arrive in Mainz. They are old soldiers, having drawn them from the army of Spain, where I have replaced them by an equal number of new horsemen. These men of old cavalry can not be in line until the middle of September. I look at them as a real reinforcement.

As time approaches the denunciation of the armistice, since you will probably receive this letter only on the 2nd of August, your language must be simple. If we want to continue the armistice, I am ready; if you want to fight, I'm ready. You know enough about my current position to know that I have put myself in a position, even against the Austrians. Thus, if Russia and Prussia want to resume hostilities while negotiating, the chances can only be favorable, especially since the armies I intended to observe Austria would remain in my rear, and warn against the vagaries and system changes of Austria.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy. Foreign Affairs Archives,

20318. - TO THE VICE-AMIRAL DUC DECRÈS, MINISTER OF THE NAVY, IN PARIS.

Mainz. July 29, 1813.

Duke Decres, the Duke of Vicenza had to arrive today in Prague; so it is likely that by 1 August the negotiations will begin. Succeed they? It is a problem. If the war is going on, which will probably be decided towards the end of the month, my intention would be to take back the 10 or 12,000 naval conscripts I gave you this year. They should all be directed to Mainz, where the minister of war would send cadres whom they would serve to fill. These men would arrive with their bags, loads of clothes and shoes, which would save me a first bet. I think you have bags. They would come with their guns, bags, skin bags, schakos and hoods; they will be fairly well dressed while crossing France, and on their arrival there will be no question but to give them uniforms.[518]

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For this purpose, you are in concert with the Ministers of War and the Administration of War. Keep your work ready, and write me your opinion.

NAPOLEON.

P. S. Nothing must be put in motion until I send you orders.

From the original comm. by Madame la Duchesse Decres.

20319. - TO PRINCE CAMBACERE,
ARCHICHANCELIER OF THE EMPIRE, PARIS.

Mainz, July 31, 1813.

My Cousin, the Empress intends to leave on the 2nd of August; she will not arrive in Cologne until the evening of the 3rd. She proposes to make this trip on the Rhine. She will probably sleep on the 4th at Aix-la-Chapelle, 5th at Givet, 6th at Rethel, 7th or 8th at Compiegne; she will be on the 9th or 10th at Saint-Cloud.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by the Duke de Cambaceres,

20320. - TO M. DE CHAMPAGNY, DUKE OF CADORE,
INTENDANT GENERAL OF THE CROWN, IN PARIS.

Mainz, July 31, 1813.

My house in Mainz has kitchens below my apartment, which makes this apartment uninhabitable. I would therefore like these kitchens to be removed, and that in place we should complete the large apartment on the ground floor. There is on this side of the house a church and a barracks falling into ruin. I have just issued a decree to order the demolition and to build on this site a large common, divided into two parts, for kitchens and stables. This demolition may, without inconvenience, take place in the year; but the building can only be done successively and in several years. It will be necessary to charge the first architect to revise all these plans and specifications. If there is a way, I would like to be able to increase the large apartment a little too, by building two small service lounges in front of the apartments of the Emperor and the Empress.

From the minute, Archives of the Empire.[519]

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20321. - TO GENERAL CLARKE, DUKE OF FELTRE,
MINISTER OF WAR, IN PARIS.

Mainz, July 31, 1813.

I have just issued a decree for the barracks and hospitals of Mainz. There was room in the hospital for only 900 beds; this is insufficient in a city as important as this one. By the provisions which I have just ordered, there will be sufficient hospitals to contain 2,000 patients, and, if need be, the three barracks, the order of which I order, may be added; which will do for 6,000 patients.

Strongholds must contain hospitals and all the embarrassments of an army. Mainz is the place of France where the barracks offer the least resources. You must give instructions to the engineer officer to keep these constructions as low as possible. With 3 or 400 francs one must lodge a man; if we can put more economy in it, we have to do it: it's because we want to do too well that we do nothing.

What is most urgent today is to finish the handling: you will see that I have granted the necessary funds for that. The handling is in a convent; this room must be able to contain all the stores.

According to the minute. Archives of the Empire.

20322. - TO MARSHAL KELLERMANN, DUKE OF VALMY,
COMMANDER SUPERIOR OF THE 5th, 25th AND 26th MILITARY DIVISIONS,
At MAYENCE.

Mainz, July 31, 1813.

Cousin, give orders at once to open the windows of the military hospital which overlook a garden, and which have been carefully closed for the owner of this garden. That these windows are open during the day.

NAPOLEON.

From the original comm. by M. General Rebillot.

20323, - TO THE COUNT DARU,
DIRECTOR OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE GREAT ARMY, IN DRESDEN.

Mainz, July 31, 1813.

Count Daru, I am happy to see that the hospitals in Dresden are now 4,600 beds.[520]

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Torgau can contain up to 3,000 patients; let me know what can in this moment be evacuated on this place. I do not suppose that it contains more than 1,000 of them today: it would therefore be 2,000 to send them.

I do not know if Wittenberg and Magdeburg have their suits in sick; if they do not have it, take advantage of the rest of the armistice to continue the evacuation.

I shall consider as advantageous any operation which will render us more free at Dresden at the moment of the resumption of hostilities. Order that the evacuations made by the corps at this time be directed to Glogau and Torgau, and as little as possible to Dresden.

NAPOLEON.

According to the copy comm. by Count Daru.

END OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH VOLUME.[521]

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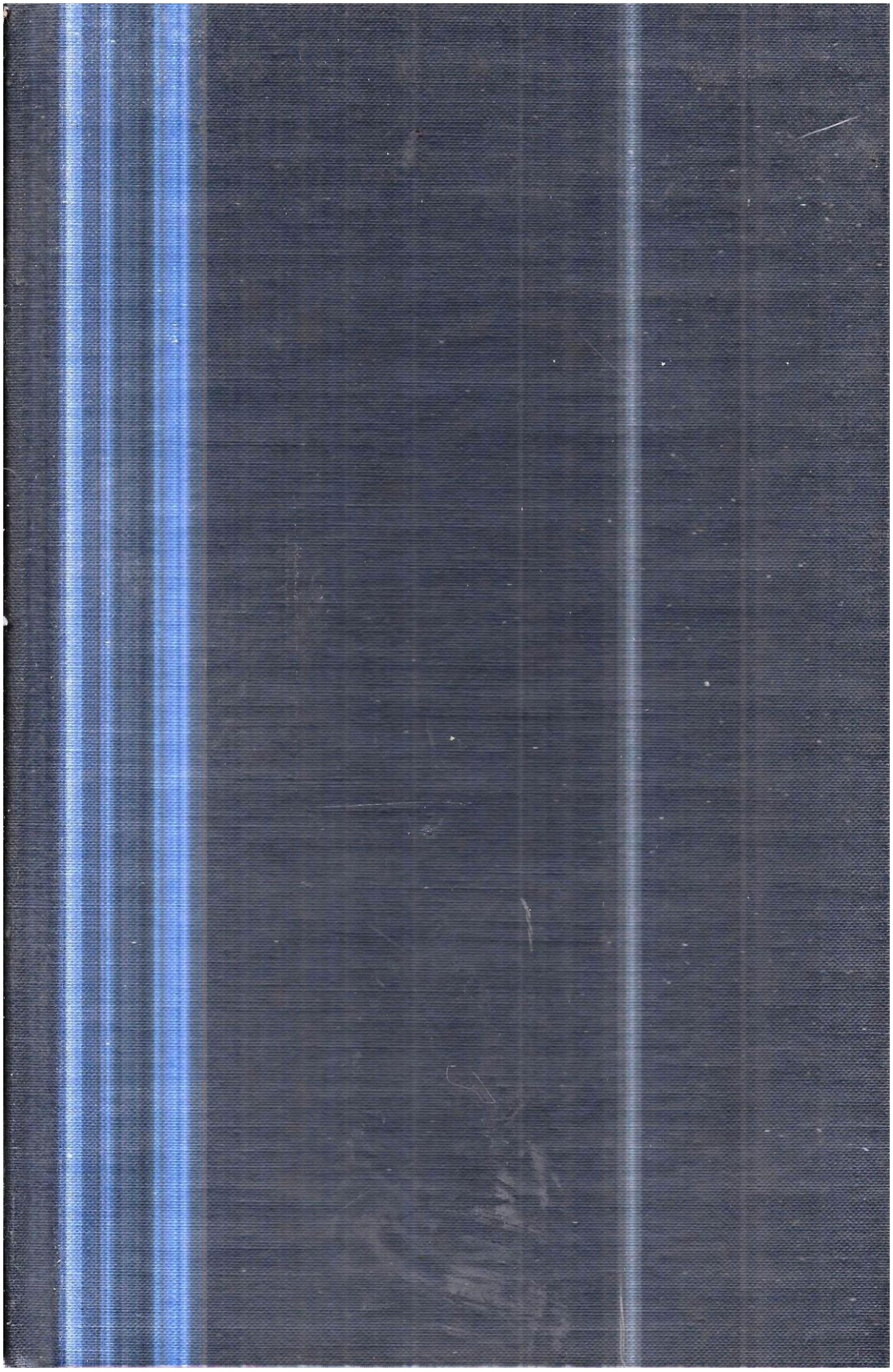
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